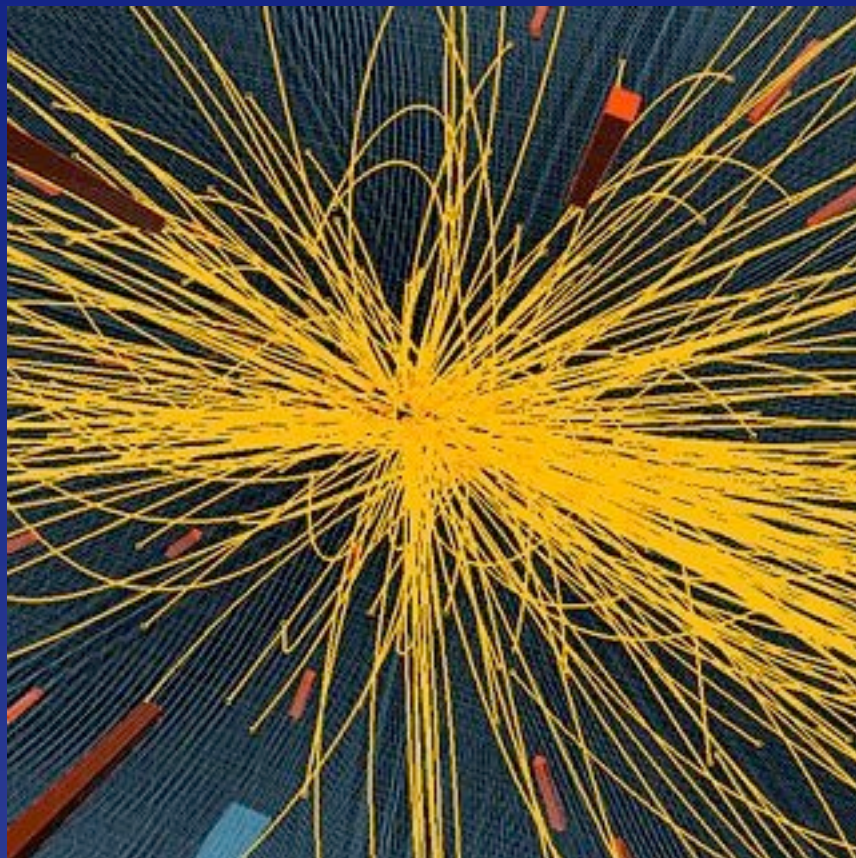


# The Standard Model and Its Problems

Chris Quigg

*Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory*



Philosophy of the Standard Model · Maria in der Aue · March 2011

# Two New Laws of Nature

Electroweak Theory

+

Quantum Chromodynamics

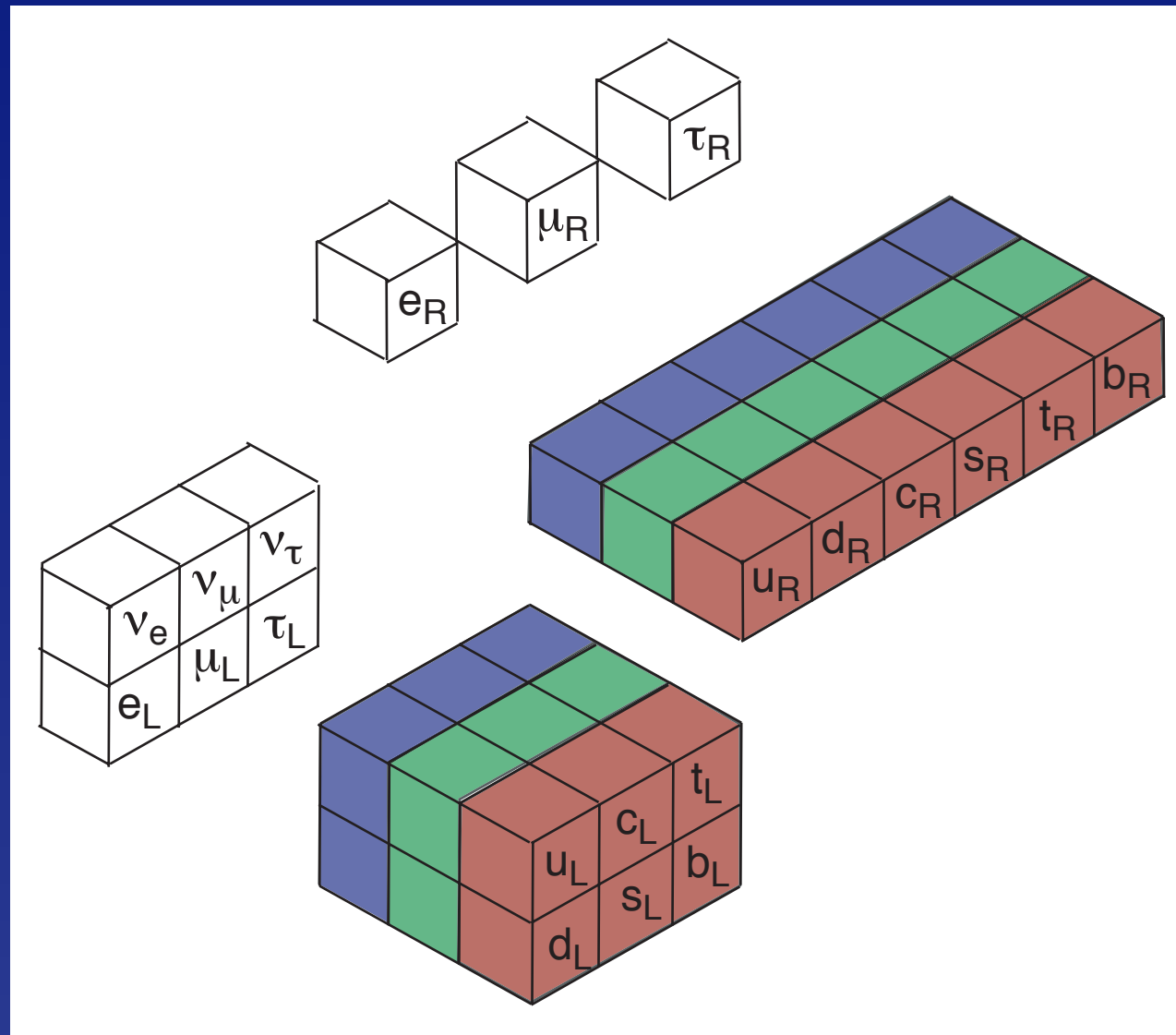
+

Quarks & leptons as fundamental constituents

Standard Model of Particle Physics

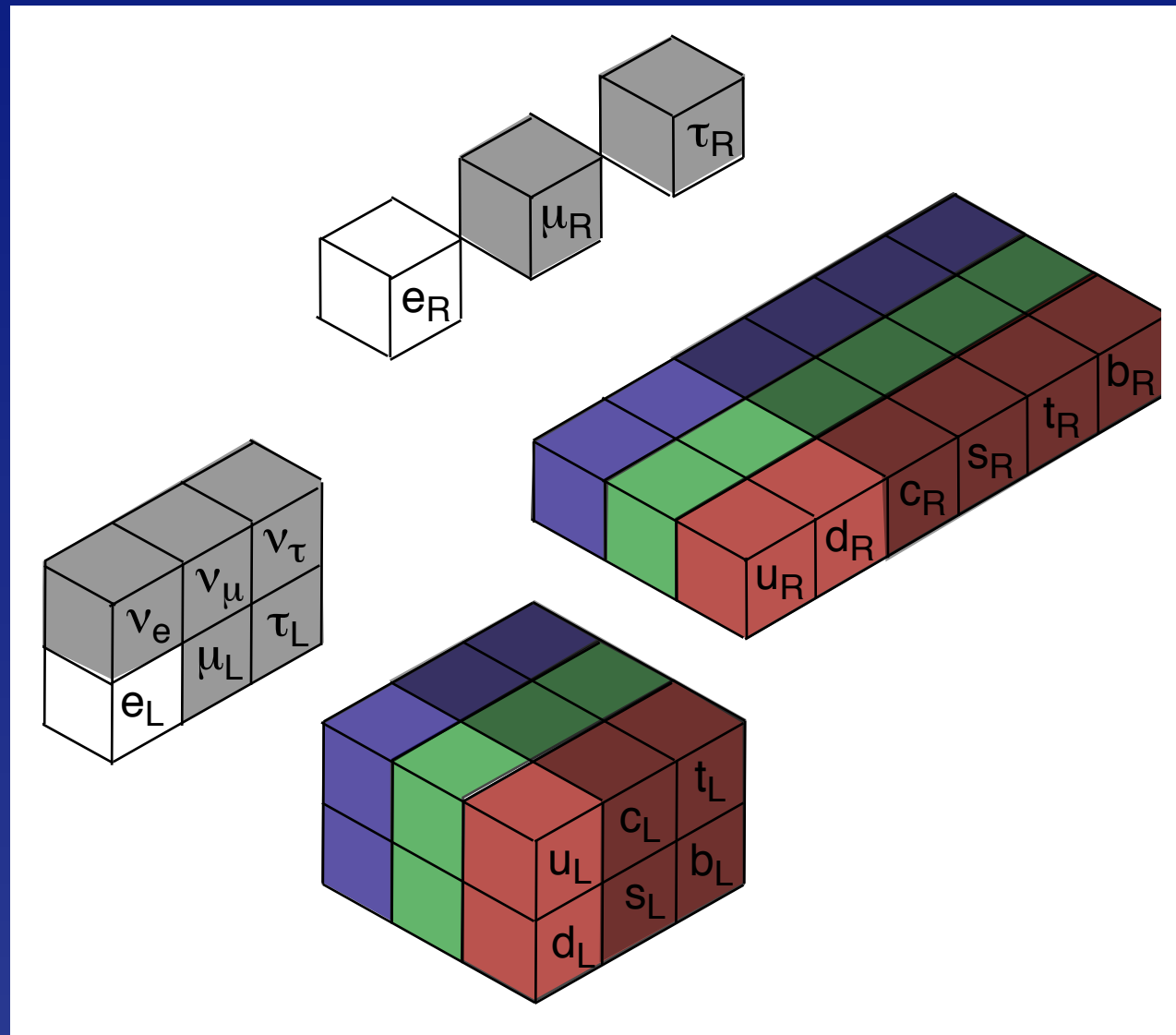
# Our Picture of Matter

Pointlike ( $r \leq 10^{-18}$  m) *quarks* and *leptons*



# Our Picture of Matter

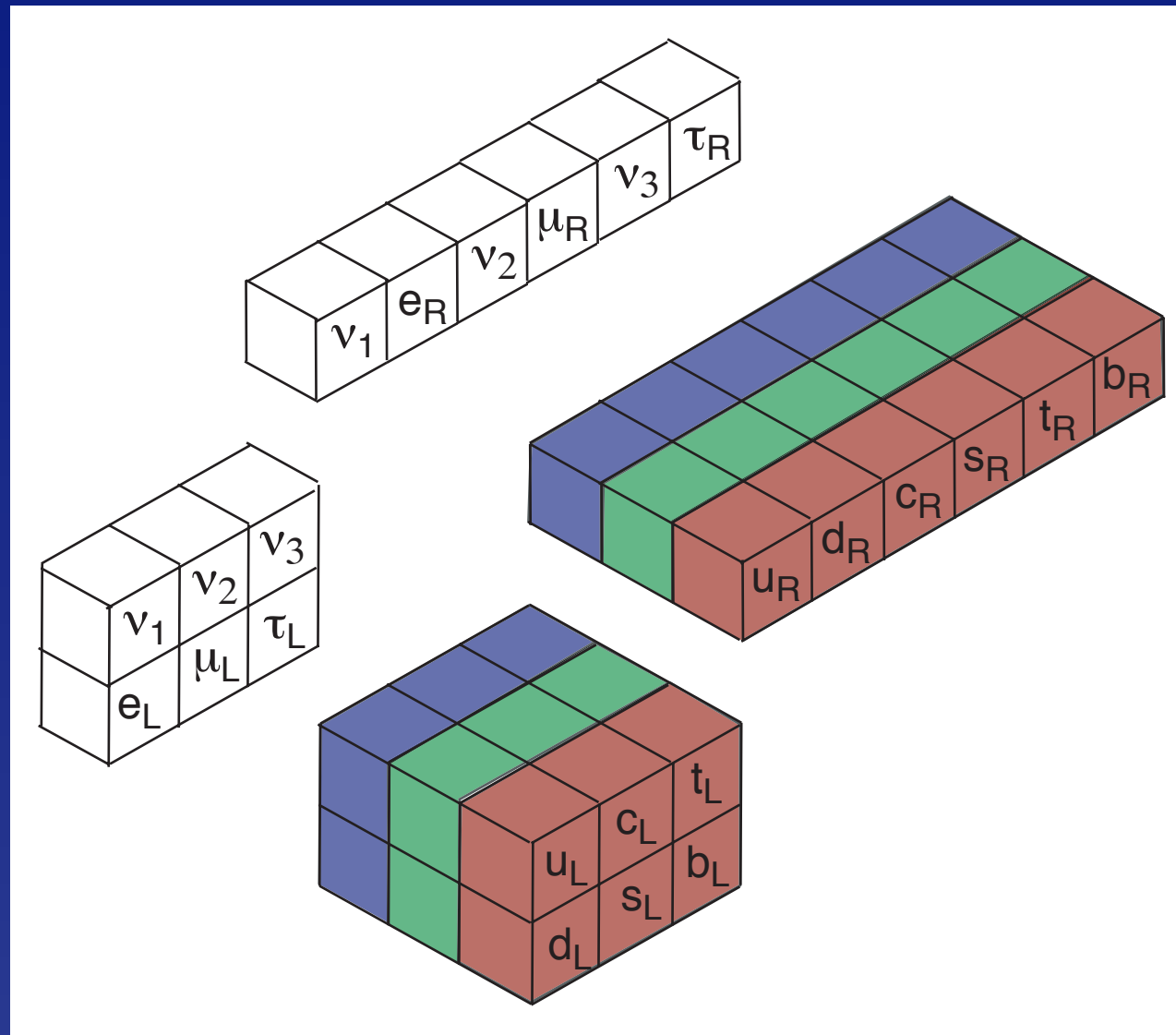
Pointlike ( $r \leq 10^{-18}$  m) *quarks* and *leptons*





# Our Picture of Matter

Pointlike ( $r \leq 10^{-18}$  m) *quarks* and *leptons*



Interactions:  $SU(3)_c \otimes SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$  gauge symmetries

8 gluons  $\cdot W^\pm \cdot Z^0 \cdot \gamma$

Gravitation mostly set aside

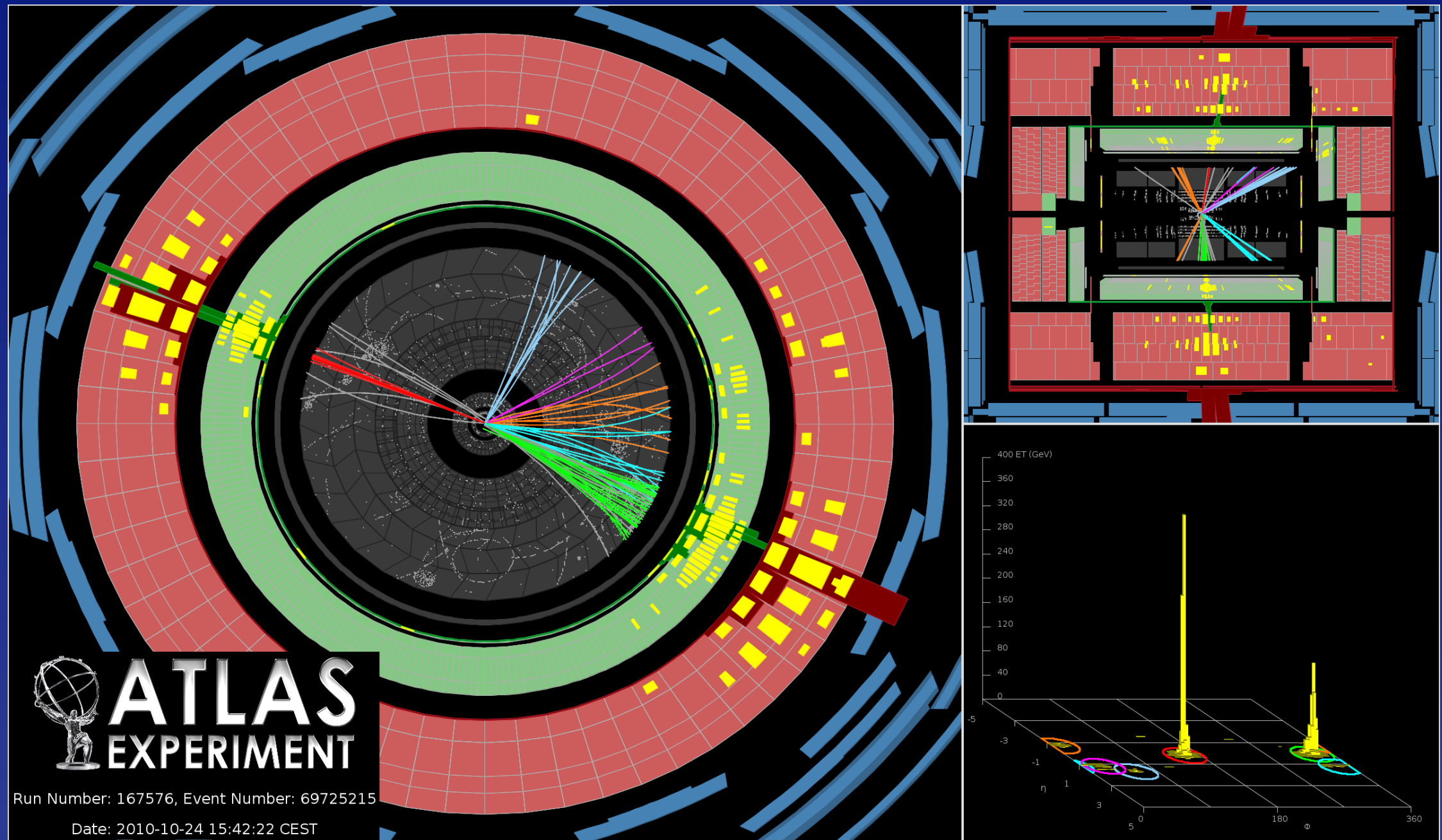
Highly idealized

Many tensions,  
puzzles,  
outstanding questions



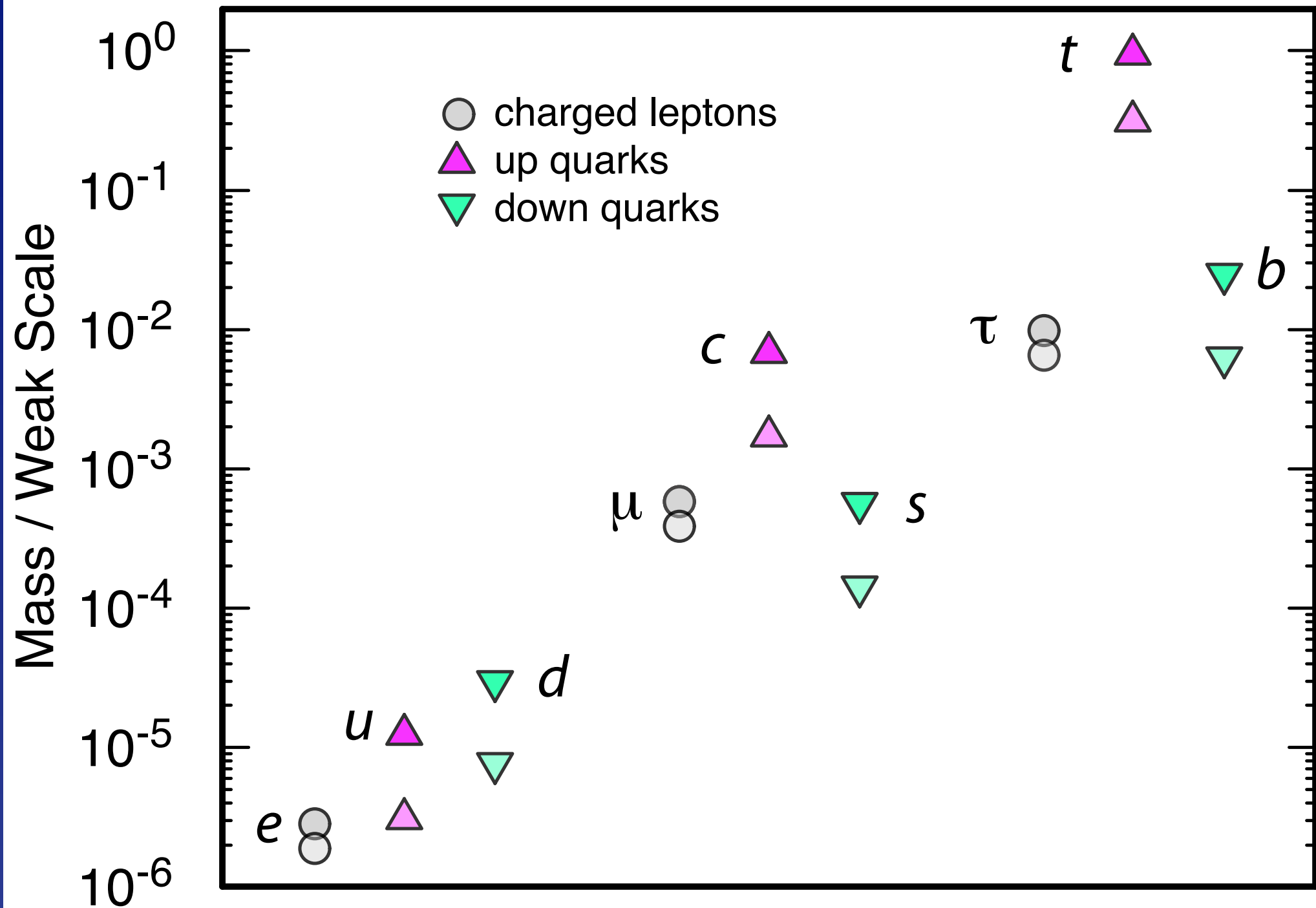
# The World's Most Powerful Microscopes

*nanonanophysics*



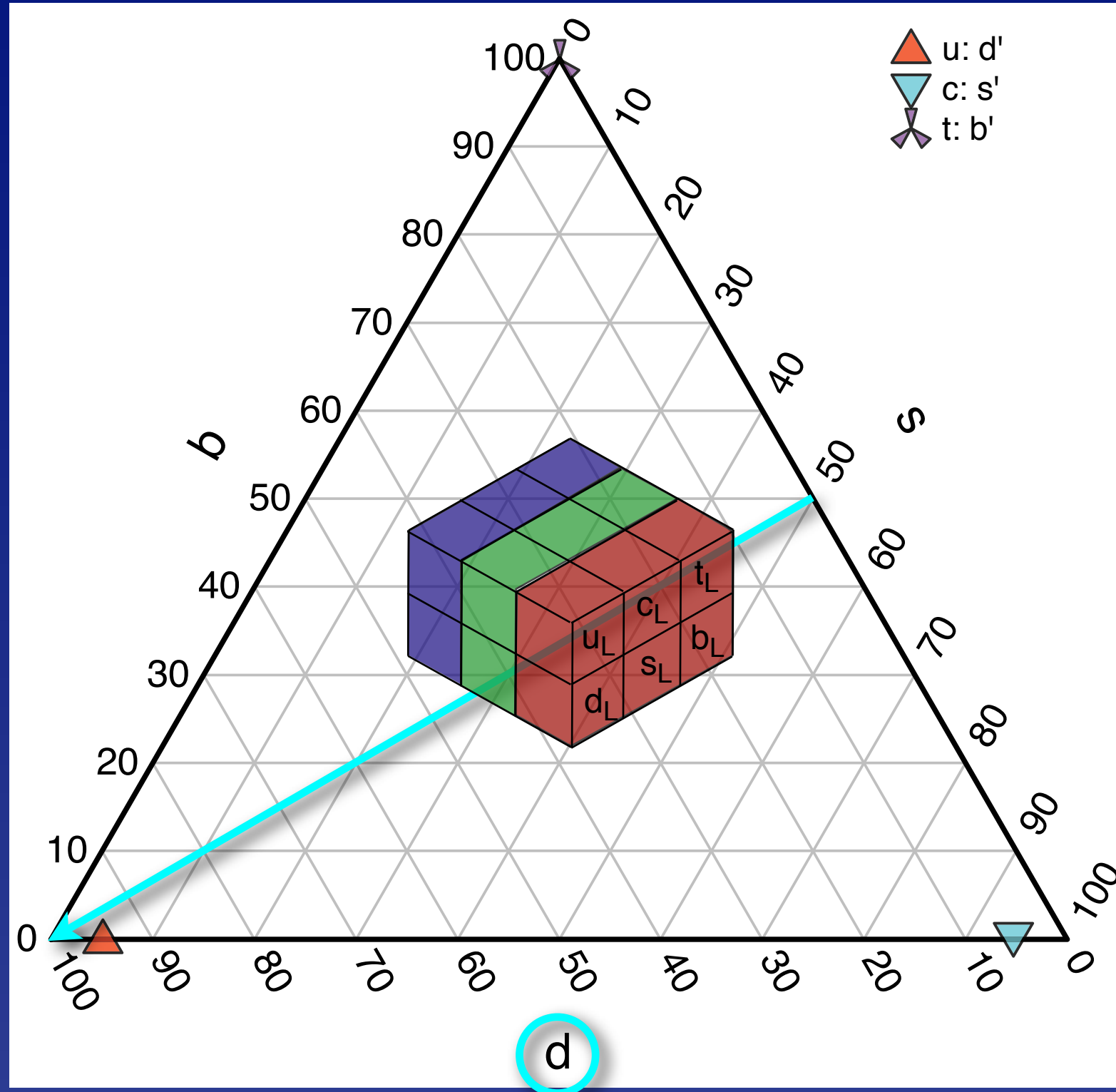
*Transverse momenta: 1.3 TeV + 1.2 TeV*

# Fermion Masses



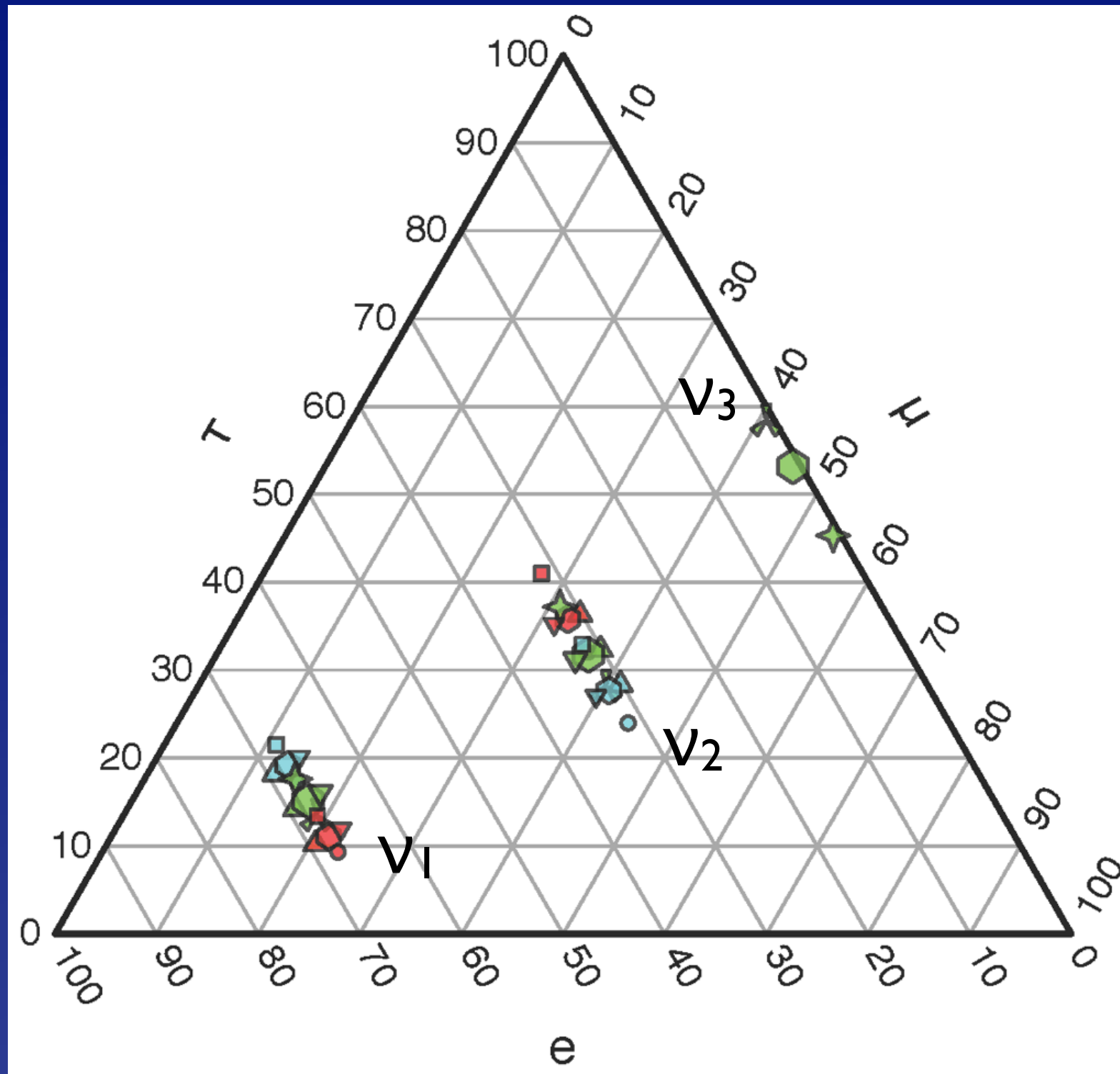
Running mass  $m(m) \dots m(U)$

# Quark family patterns: generations



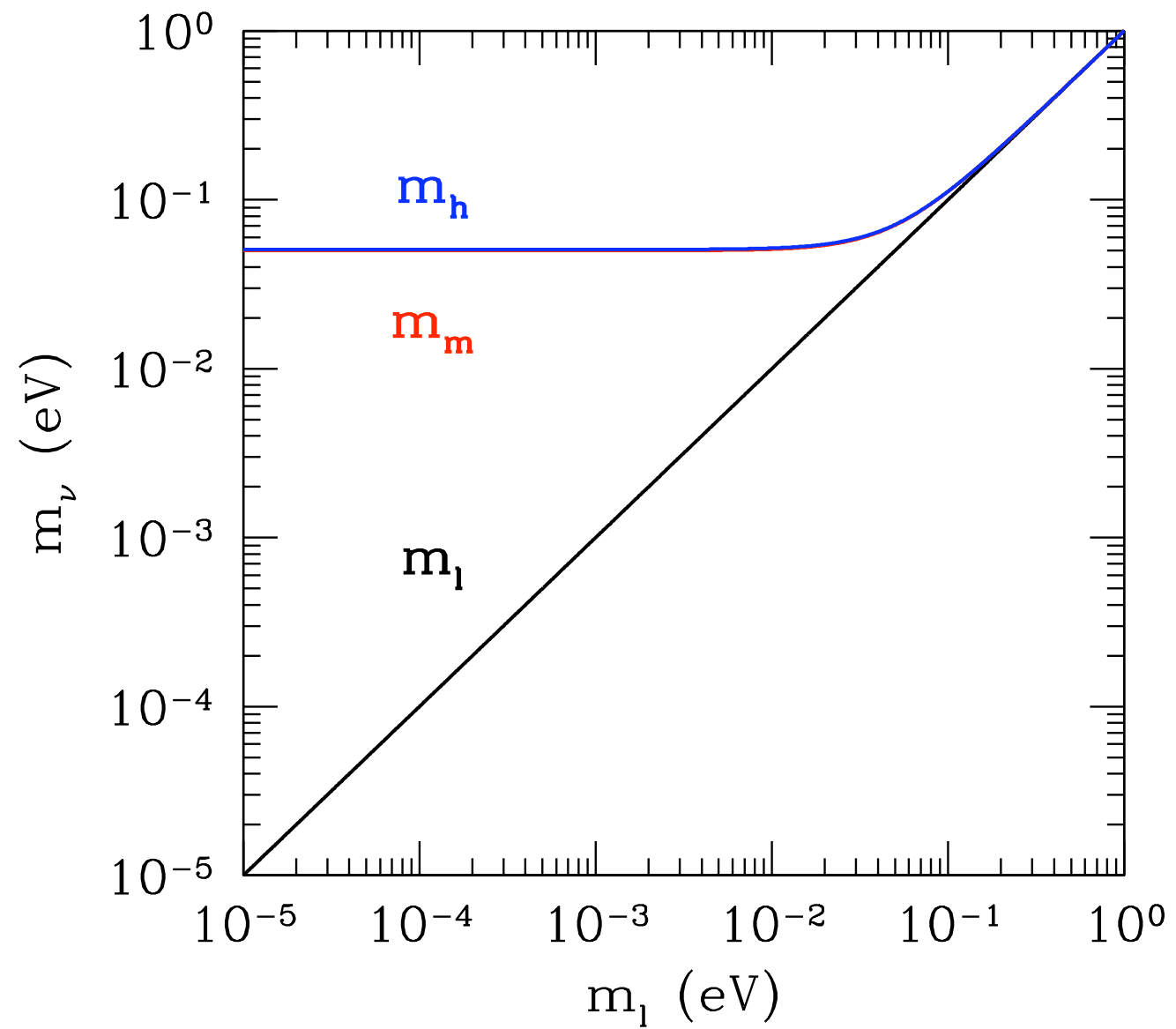
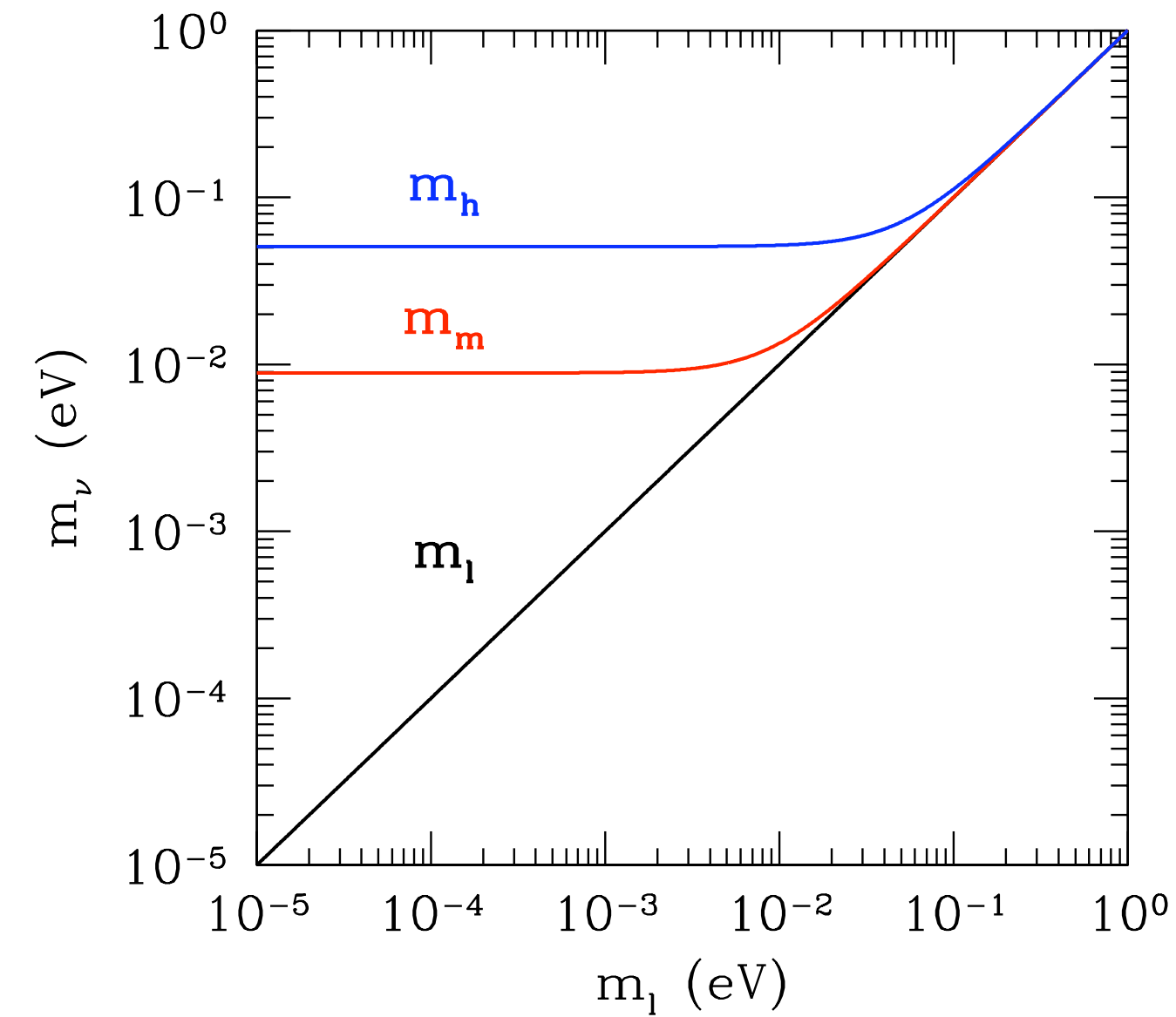
Veltman: Higgs boson knows something we don't know!

# Neutrino family patterns





# Neutrino Masses

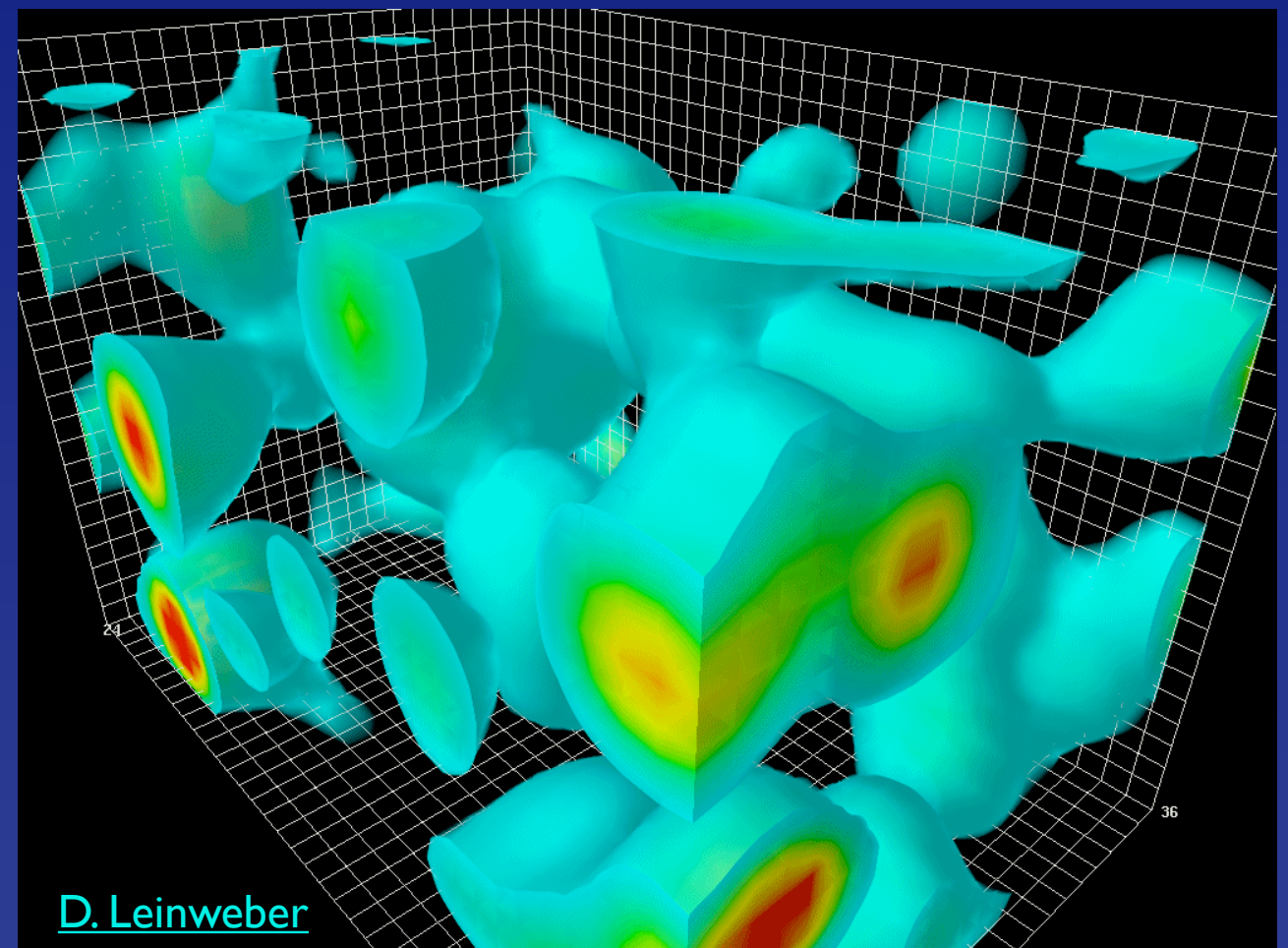
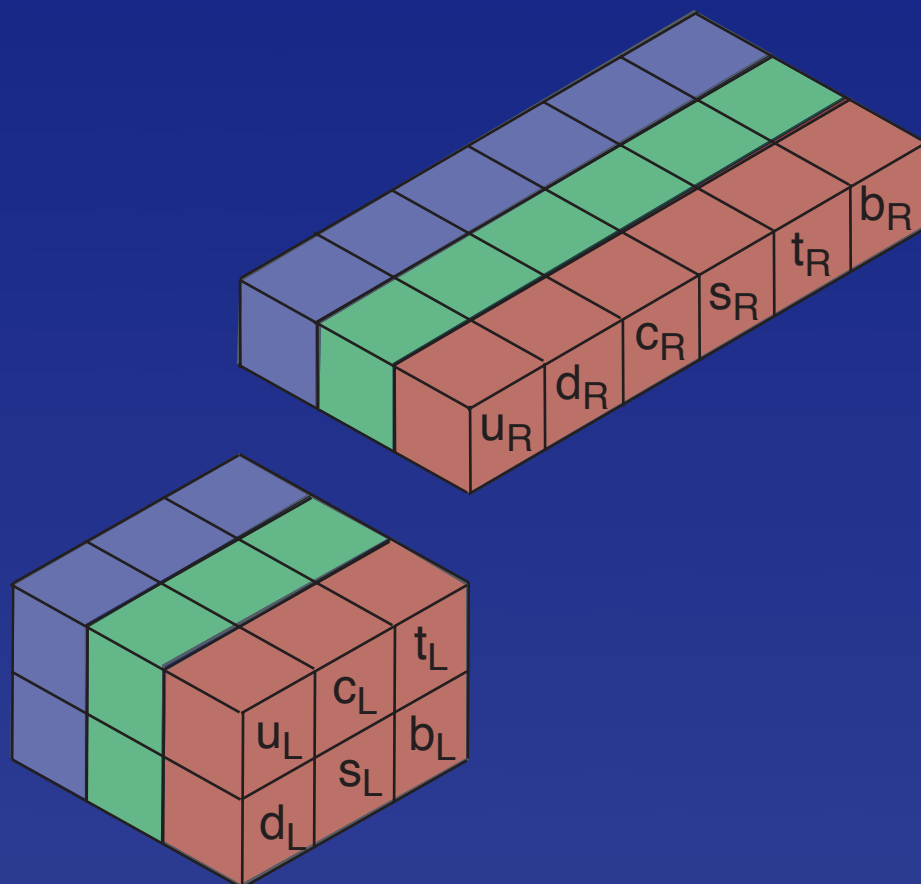
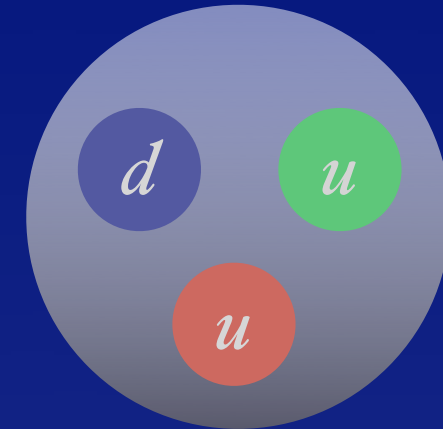


# New Law of Nature #1

Quantum chromodynamics (QCD):  
color symmetry among quarks

red · green · blue

gluons



[D. Leinweber](#)

# Quantum Chromodynamics

## Dynamical basis for quark model

*Gluons* (vector force particles) mediate interactions among the quarks and experience strong interactions.

Contrast *photons*, which mediate interactions among charged particles, not among themselves.

Quark, gluon interactions  $\Rightarrow$  nuclear forces

# Quantum Chromodynamics

Asymptotically free theory

Many successes in perturbation theory to 1 TeV

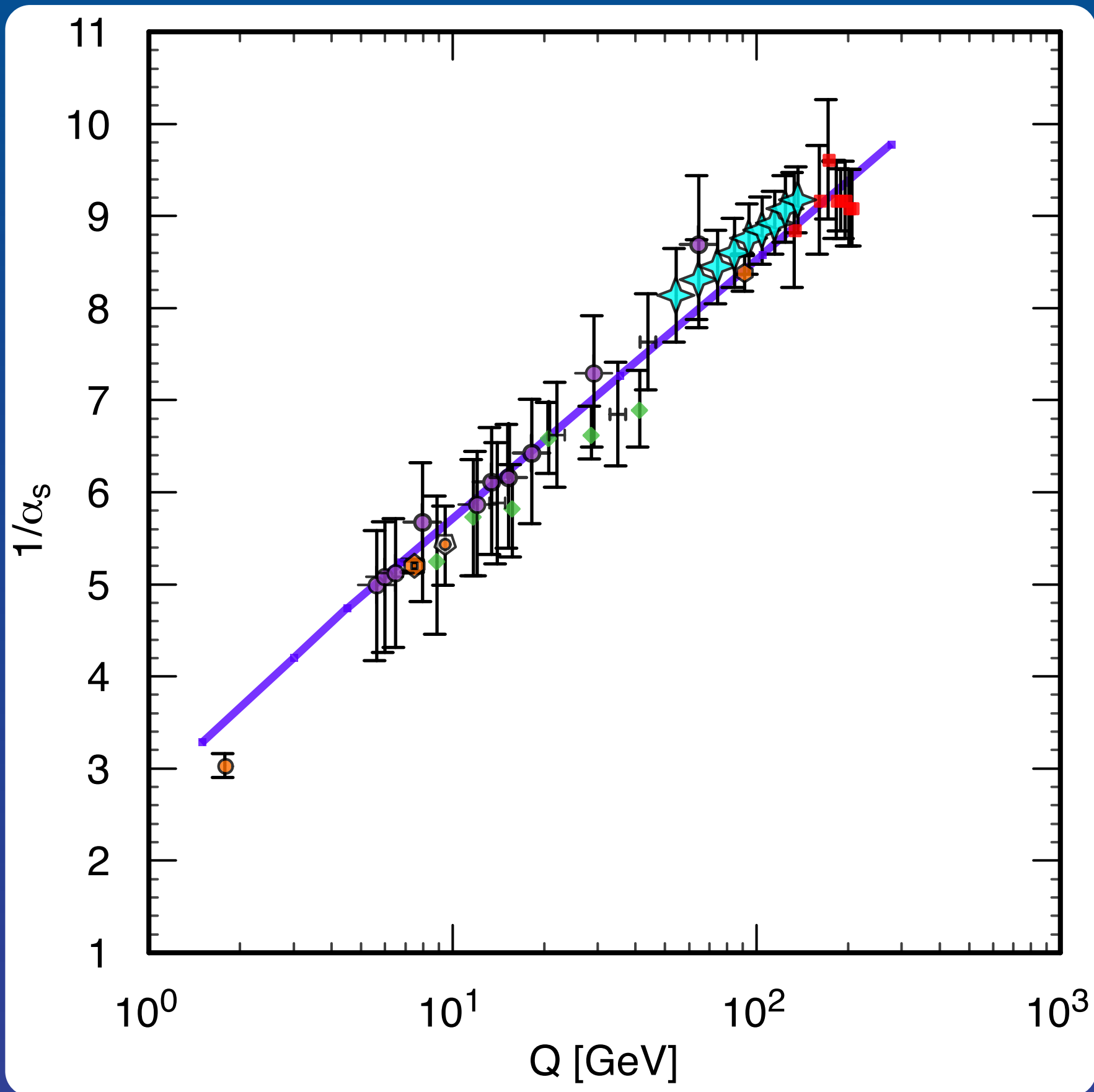
Growing understanding: nonperturbative regime

Quarks & gluons confined: evidence, no proof

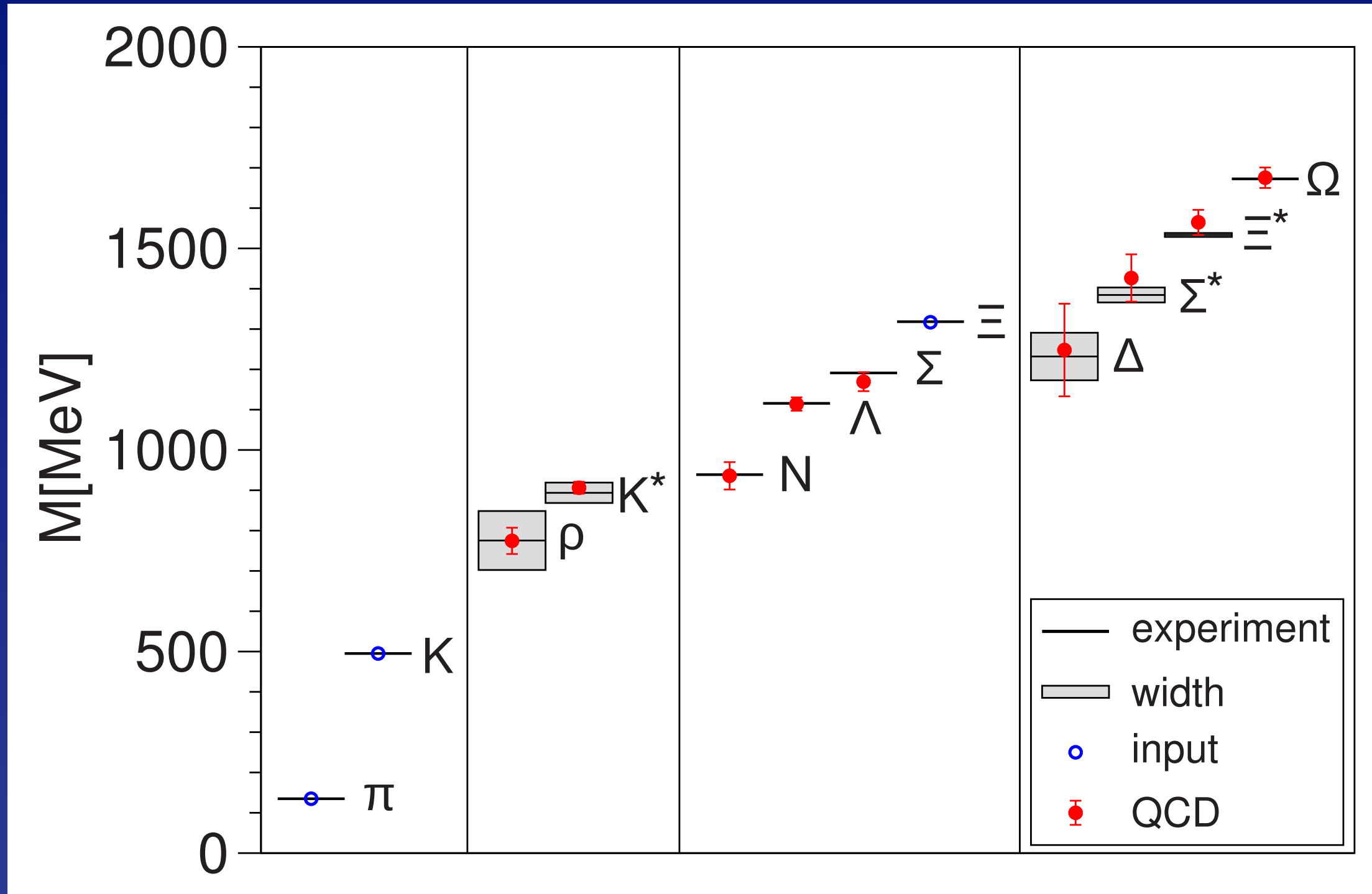
No structural defects, but *strong CP problem*



# Evolution of the strong coupling “constant”



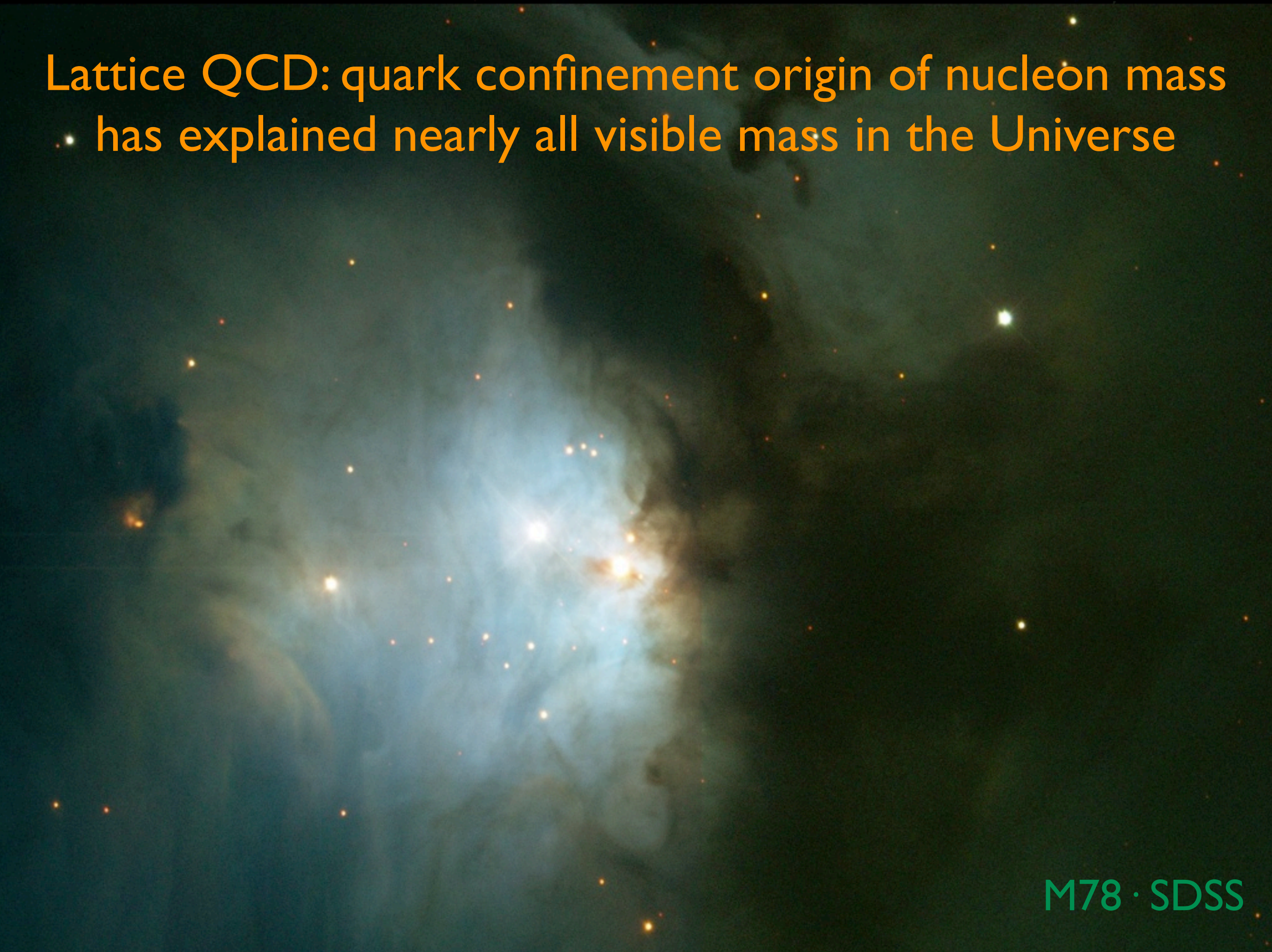
# Light hadron spectrum with dynamical fermions



BMW



Lattice QCD: quark confinement origin of nucleon mass  
has explained nearly all visible mass in the Universe



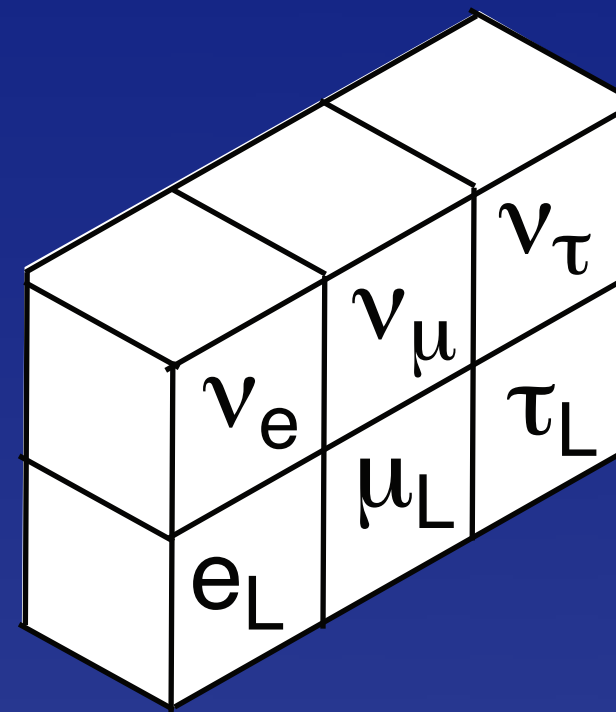
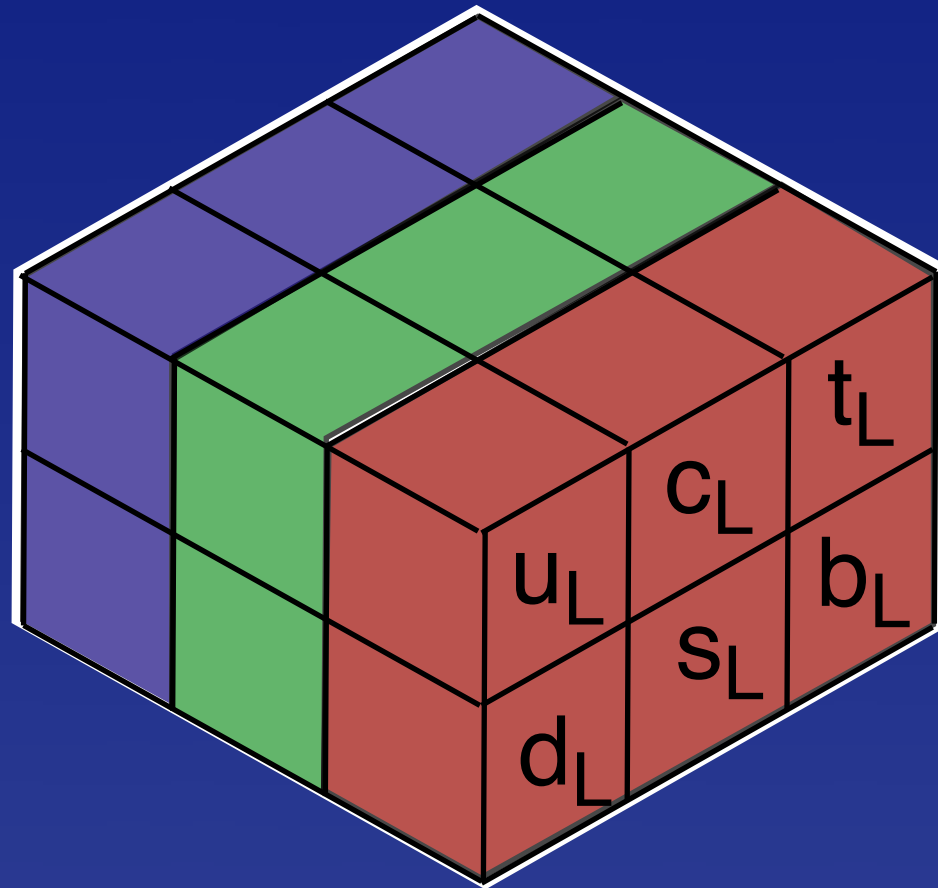
M78 · SDSS



# New Law of Nature #2

Electroweak theory:  
family symmetry  
 $u \leftrightarrow d ; \nu \leftrightarrow e ; \dots$

*weak bosons ( $W^+, W^-, Z^0$ ) + photon*





# Electroweak Theory

To good approximation ...

3-generation V–A

Flavor-changing neutral currents suppressed

Quark mixing matrix describes CP violation

Gauge symmetry validated in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$

Tested as quantum field theory at per-mille level

# Weak interactions, electromagnetism seem so different ...

Weak	Electromagnetic
range: 1% proton size	infinite range
$W$ : $90 \times$ proton mass	massless photon

How can they share a common origin (symmetry)?

Symmetry of laws  $\nRightarrow$  symmetry of outcomes



Studies among the Snow Crystals ... by Wilson Bentley, via NOAA Photo Library

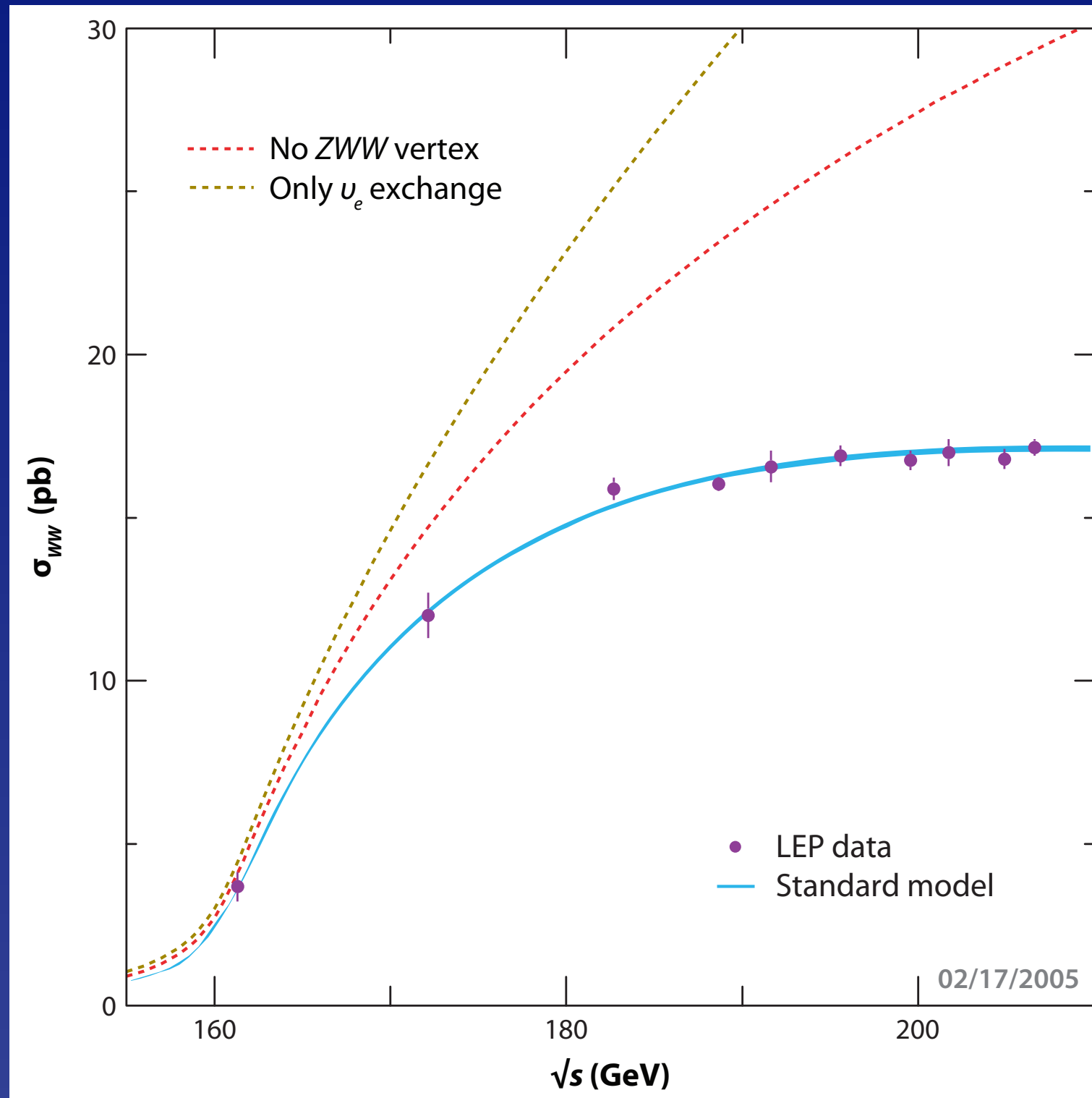


Symmetry of laws  $\nRightarrow$  symmetry of outcomes



Gauge symmetry (group-theory structure) tested in

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow W^+W^-$$



# Reference Material

Spontaneous symmetry breaking as a basis of particle mass, Rep. Prog. Phys. 70, 1019 (2007) [[arXiv:0704.2232](#)].

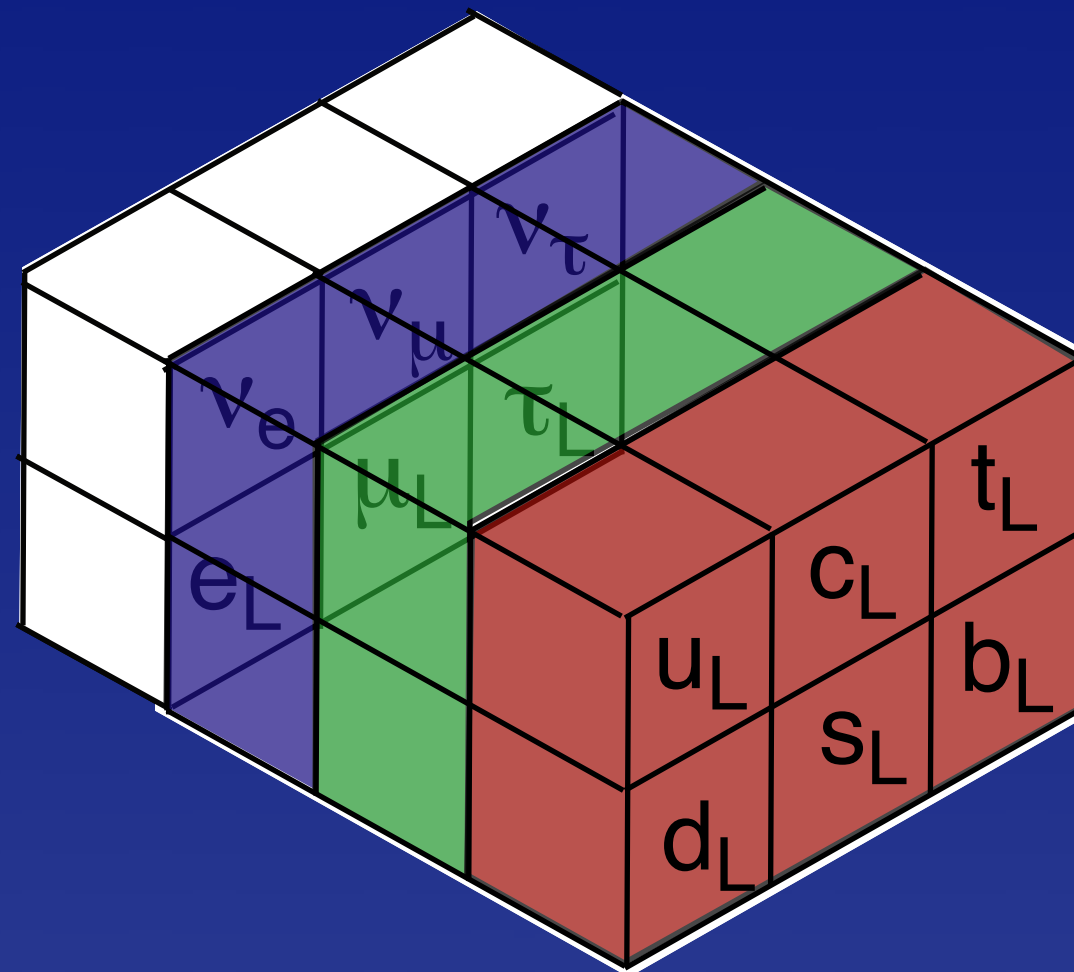
Unanswered Questions in the Electroweak Theory, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 59, 505 (2009) [[arXiv:0905.3187](#)].

Resource Letter on Quantum Chromodynamics (with A. S. Kronfeld), Am. J. Phys. 78, 1081 (2010) [[arXiv:1002.5032](#)].

Supercollider Physics (with E. Eichten, I. Hinchliffe, K. Lane), Rev. Mod. Phys. 56, 579 (1984); erratum 58, 1065 (1986).

# A Unified Theory?

*Why are atoms so remarkably neutral?*

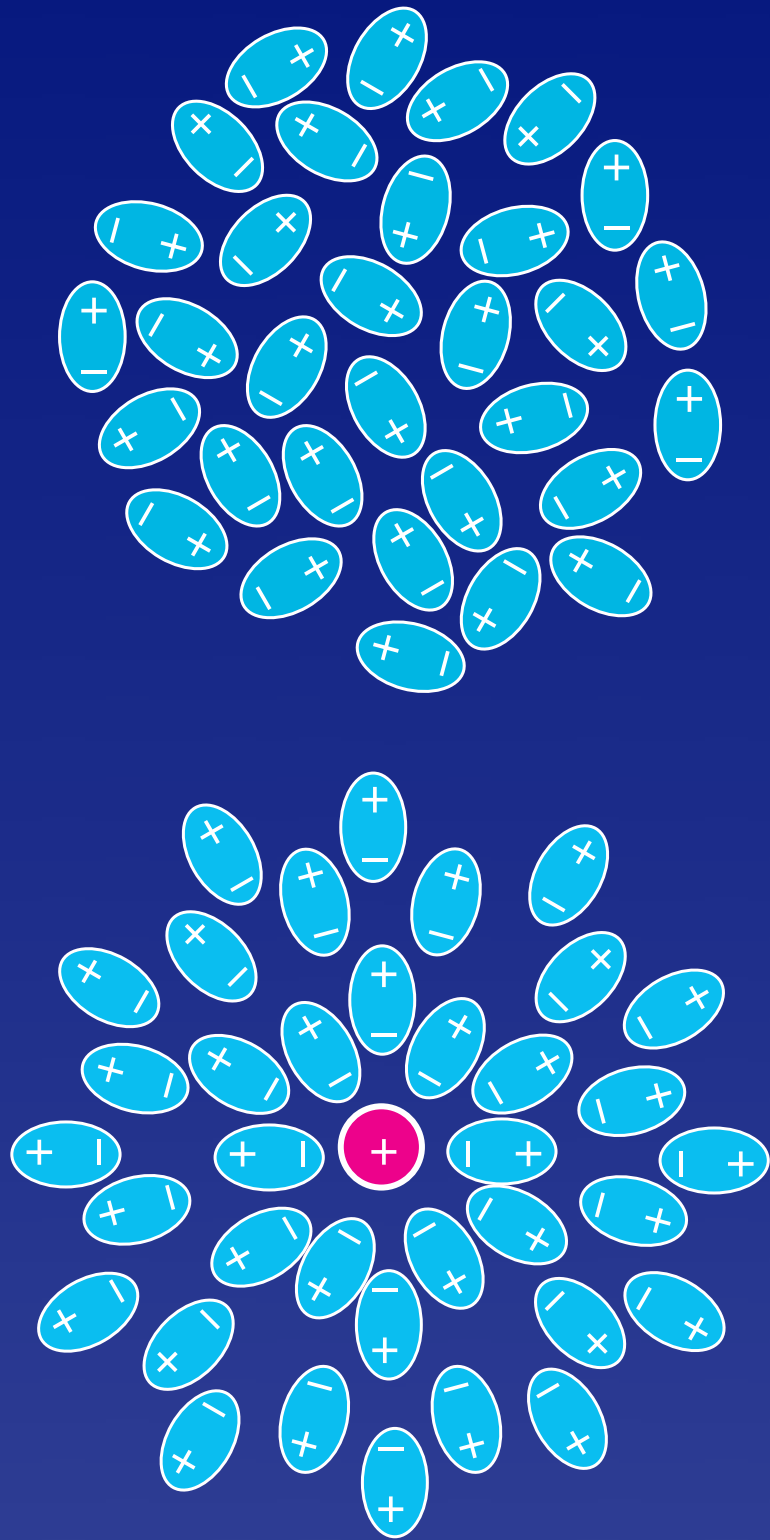


*Coupling constant unification?*

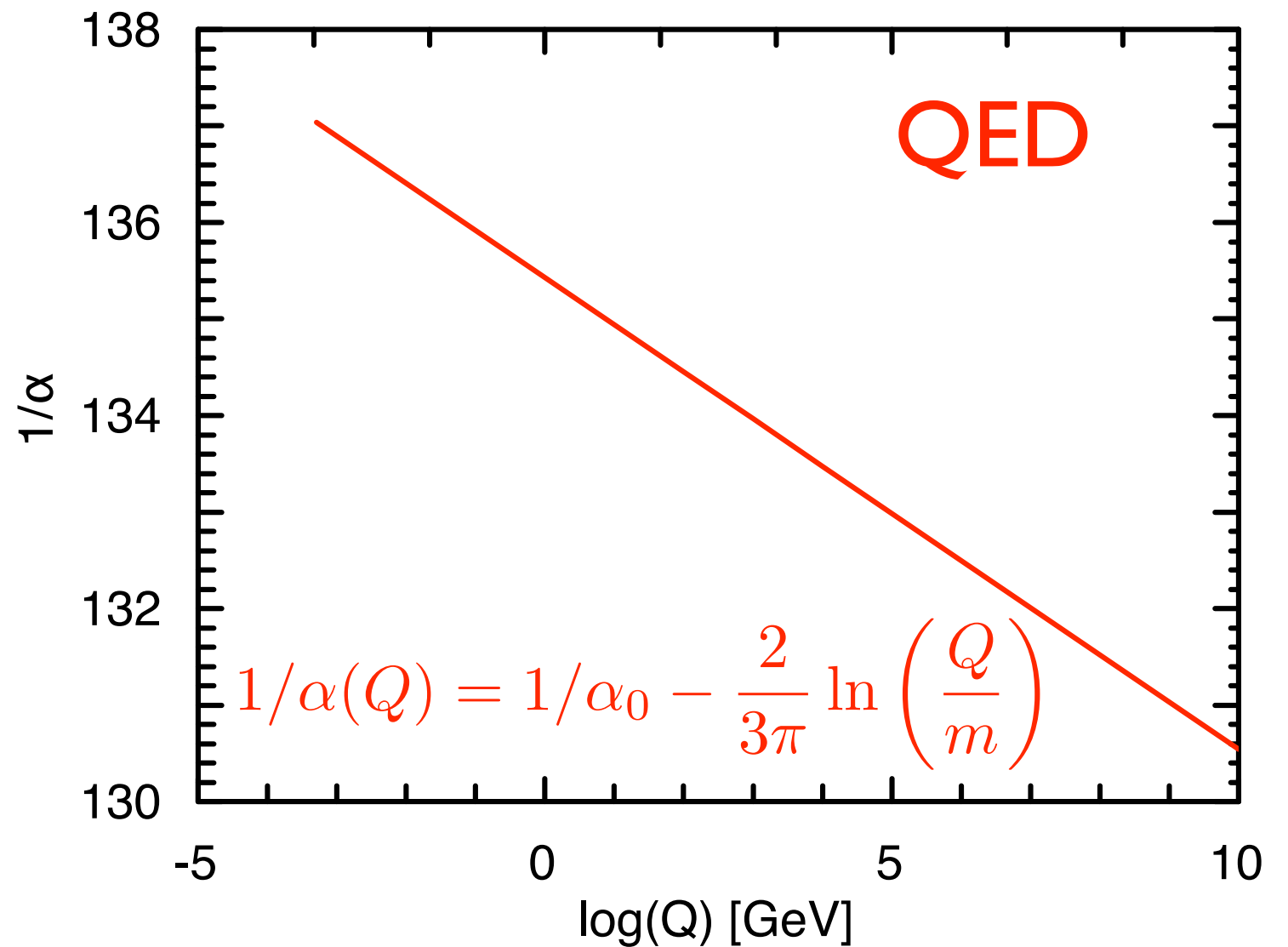
Extended quark–lepton families:  
proton decay!



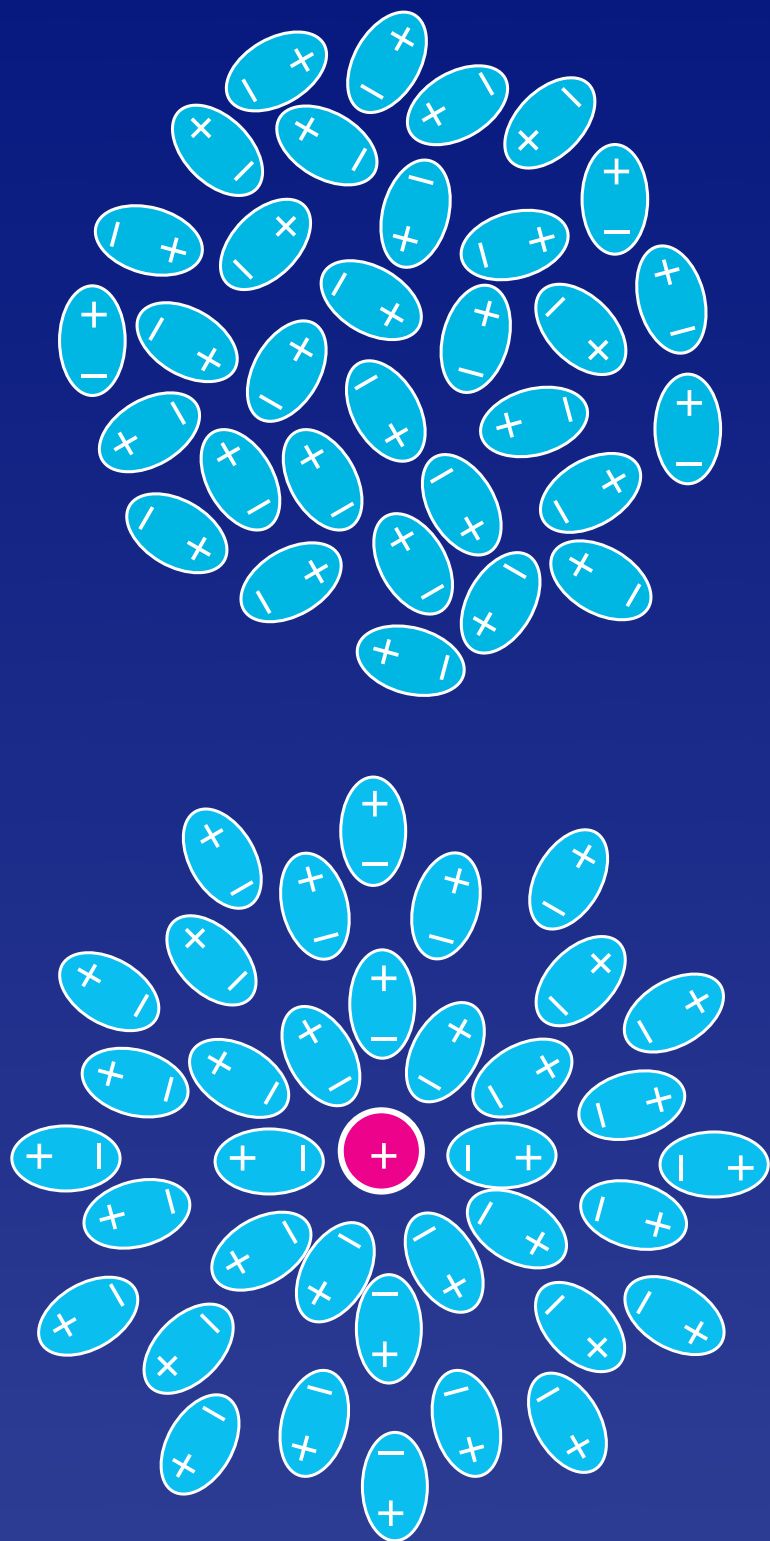
# Charge screening behavior of electrodynamics



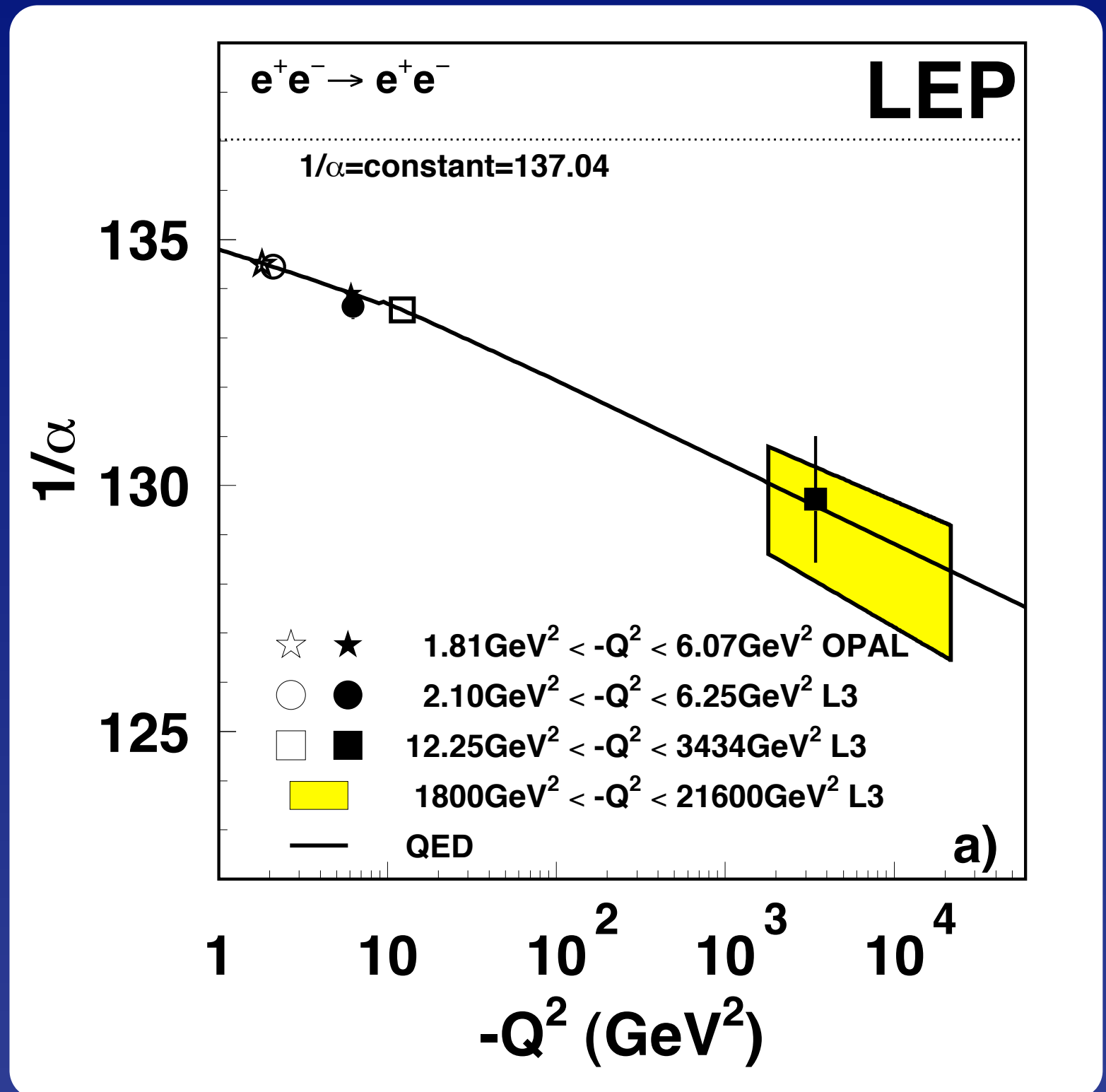
$$Q_{\text{eff}} = Q/\epsilon, \epsilon > 1$$



# Charge screening behavior of electrodynamics

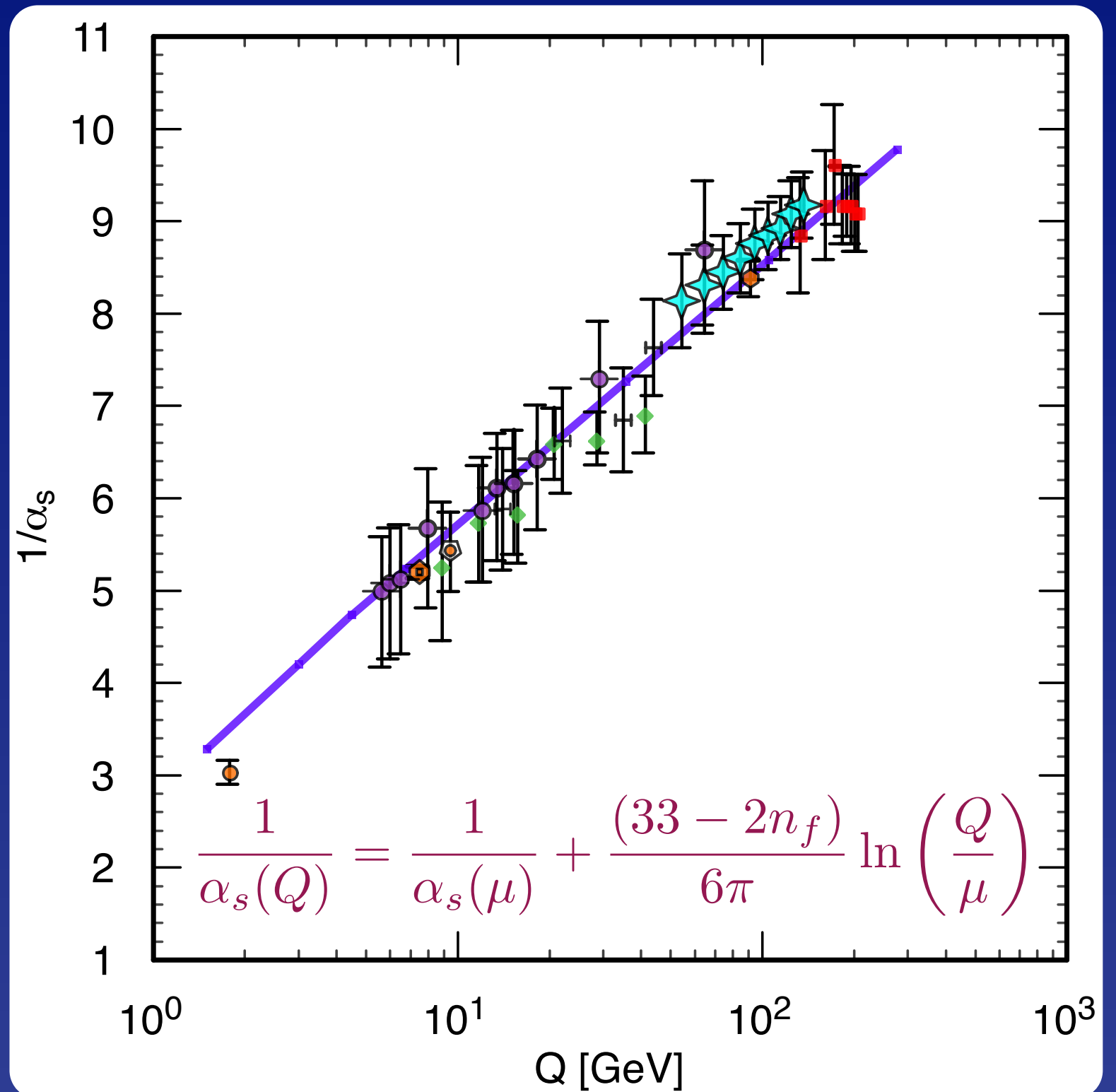


$$Q_{\text{eff}} = Q/\epsilon, \epsilon > 1$$

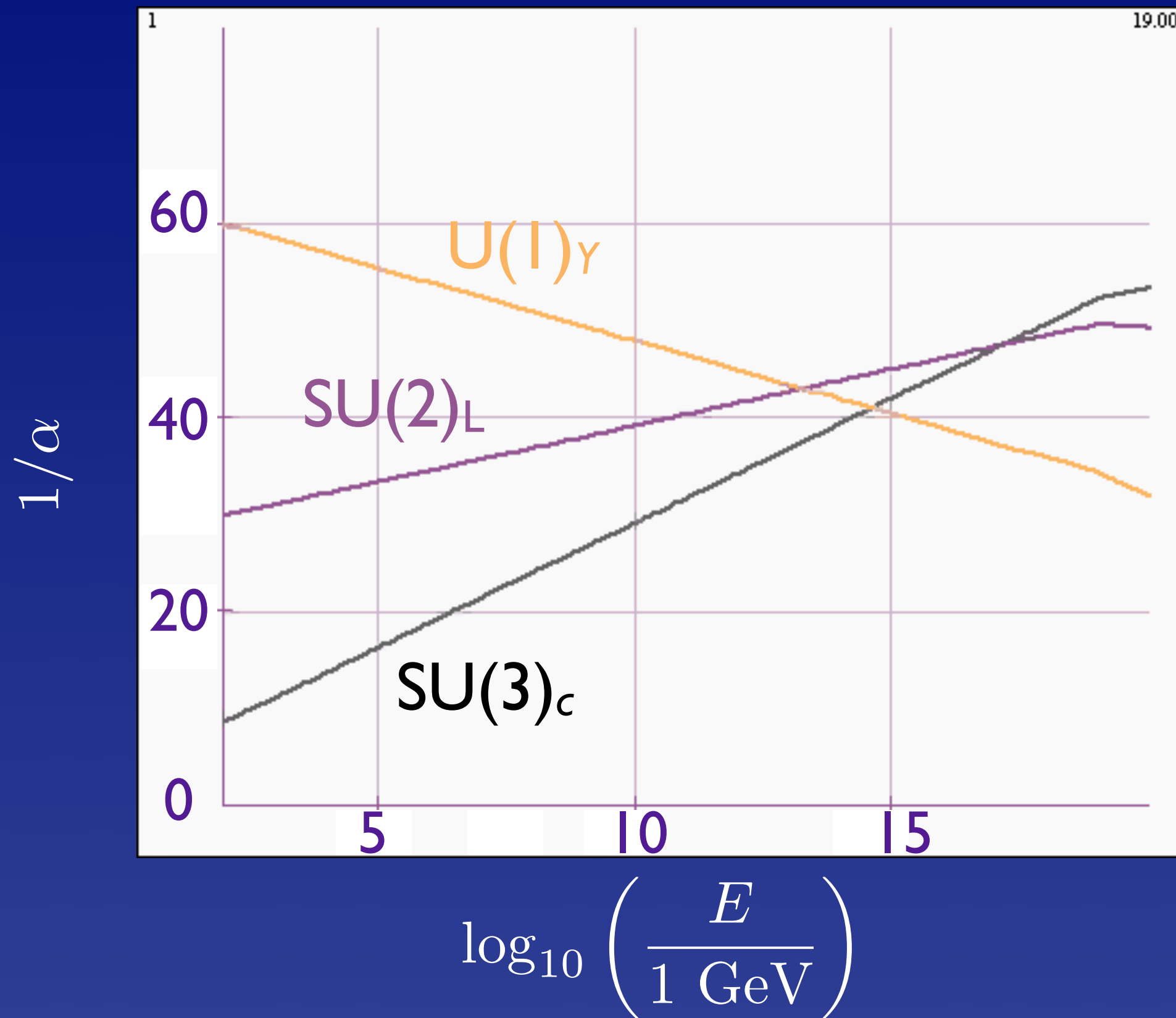


# Color *antiscreening* behavior of chromodynamics

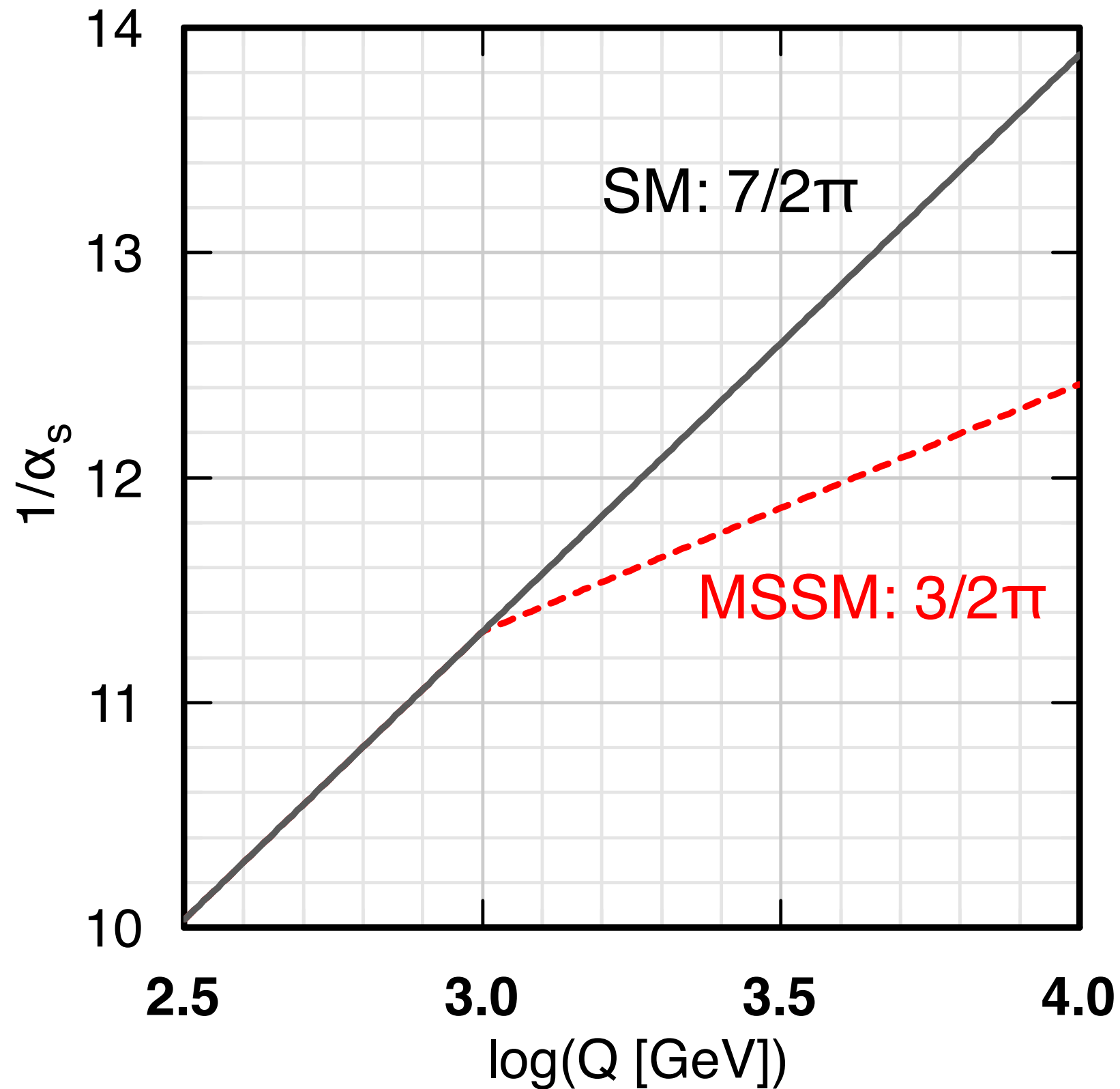
Color screening  
from quark pairs,  
camouflage from  
gluon cloud.



# Unification of Forces?

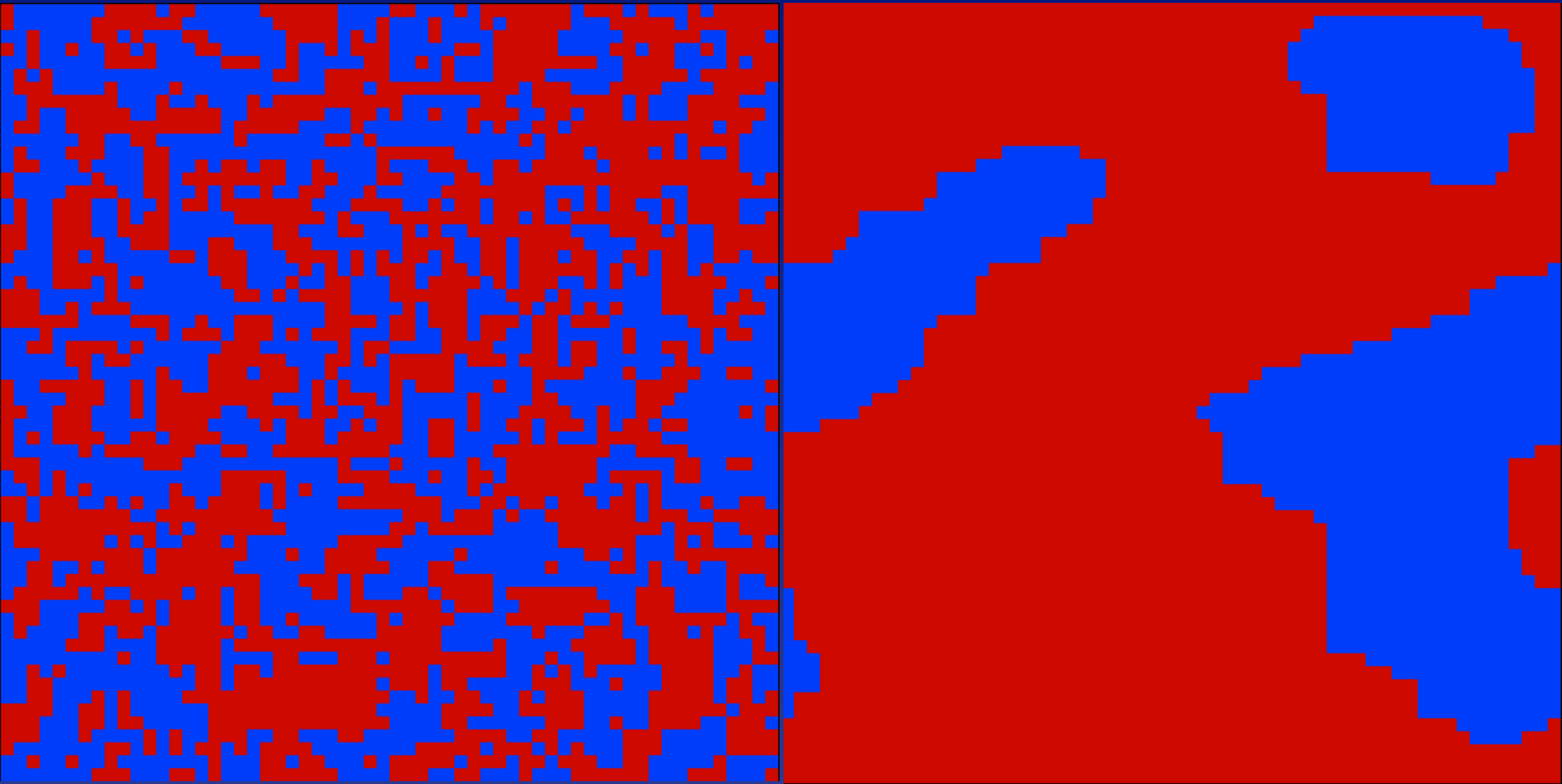


# Might LHC see the change in evolution?



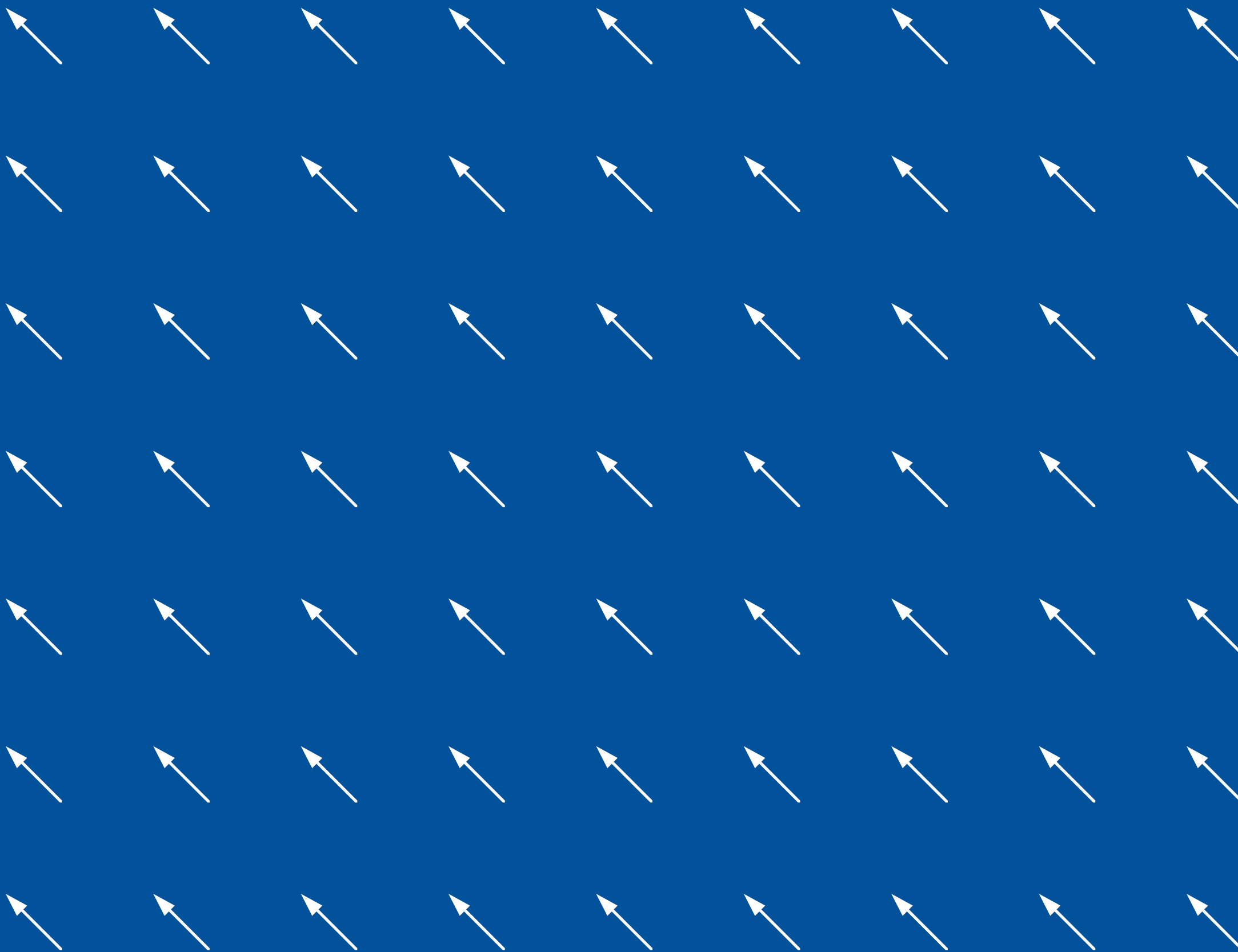
Similar change in  $\sin^2\theta_W = \alpha/\alpha_2$

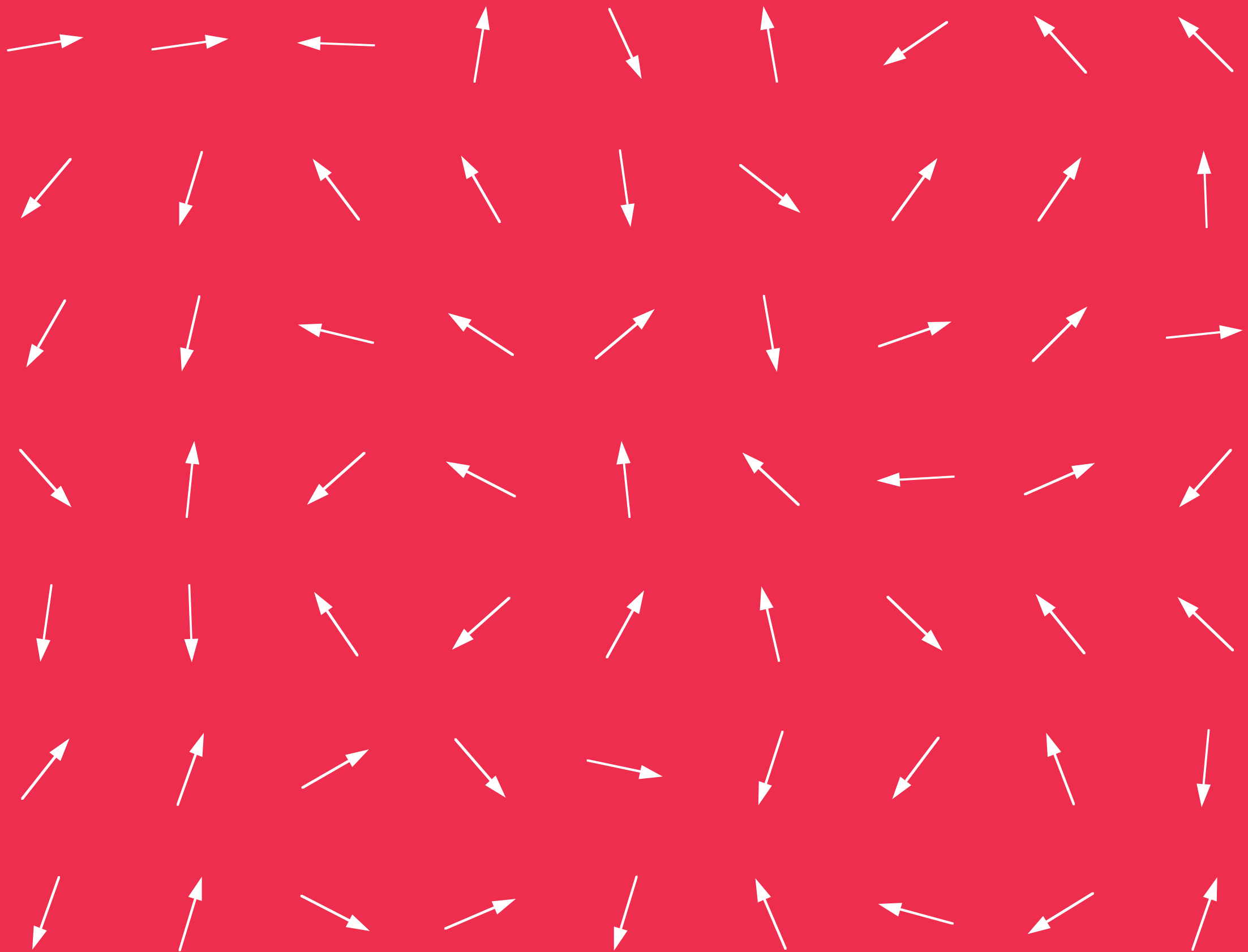
# Symmetry & Disorder

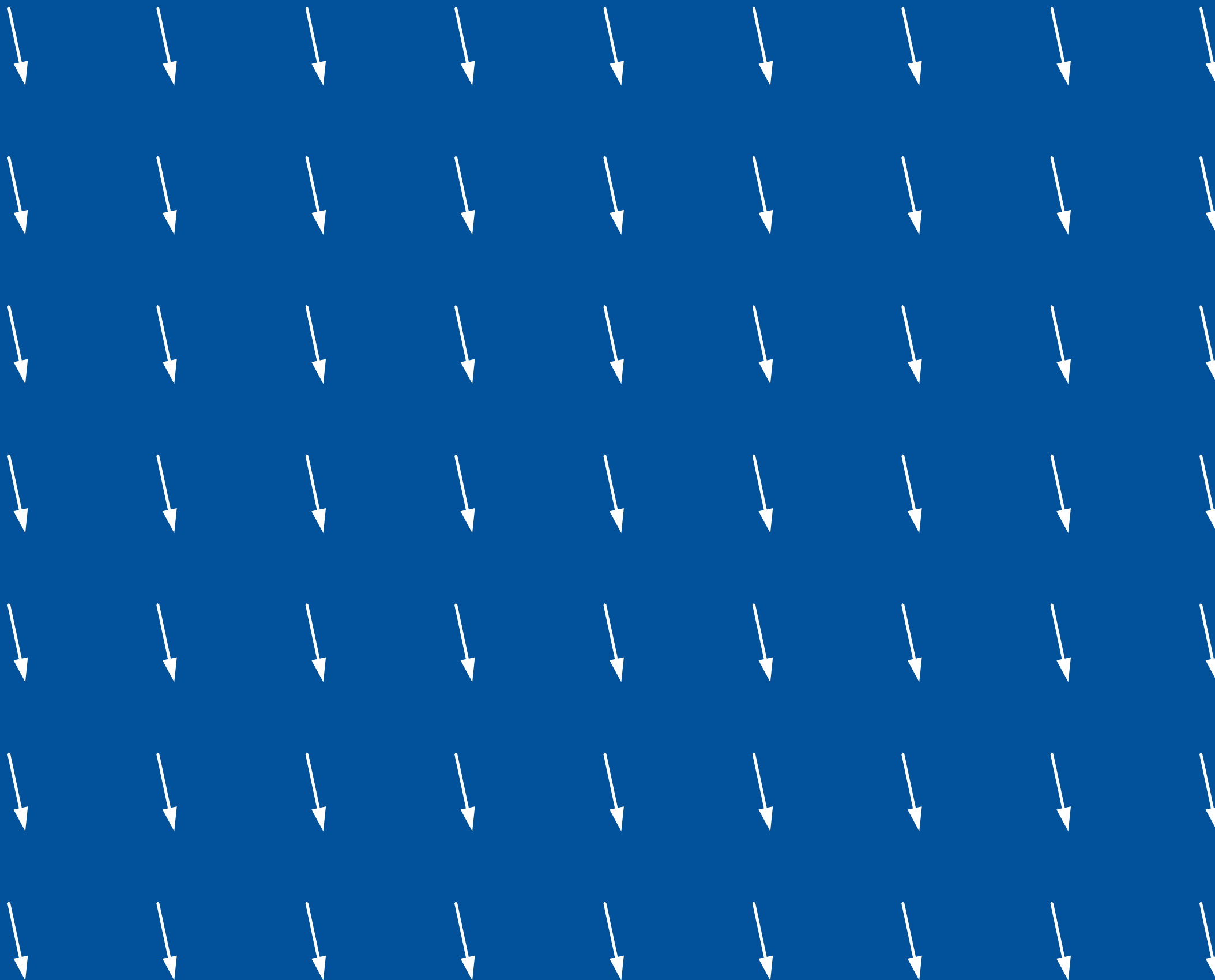


2-d Ising Model of a Ferromagnet









# Meissner Effect hidden EM symmetry



Superconductivity suggests  
a field that permeates all of space  
could hide electroweak symmetry

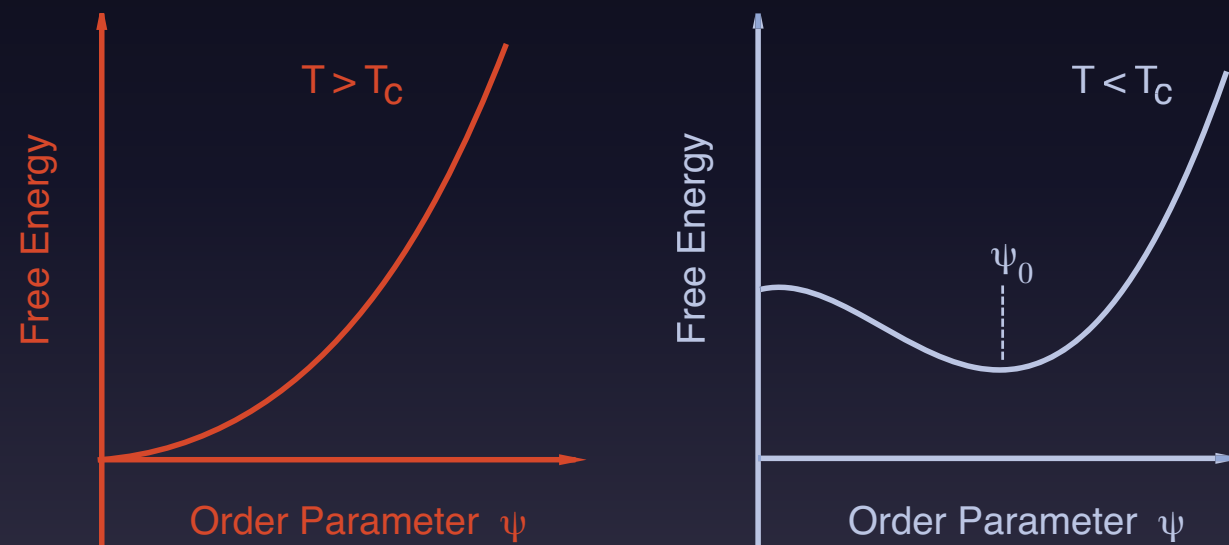
# Massive Photon? *Hiding Symmetry*

Recall **2** miracles of superconductivity:

- No resistance ... .. Meissner effect (exclusion of **B**)

Ginzburg–Landau Phenomenology (not a theory from first principles)

normal, **resistive** charge carriers ... .. + **superconducting** charge carriers



$$\mathbf{B} = 0: \quad G_{\text{super}}(0) = G_{\text{normal}}(0) + \alpha |\psi|^2 + \beta |\psi|^4$$

$$T > T_c: \quad \alpha > 0 \quad \langle |\psi|^2 \rangle_0 = 0$$

$$T < T_c: \quad \alpha < 0 \quad \langle |\psi|^2 \rangle_0 \neq 0$$

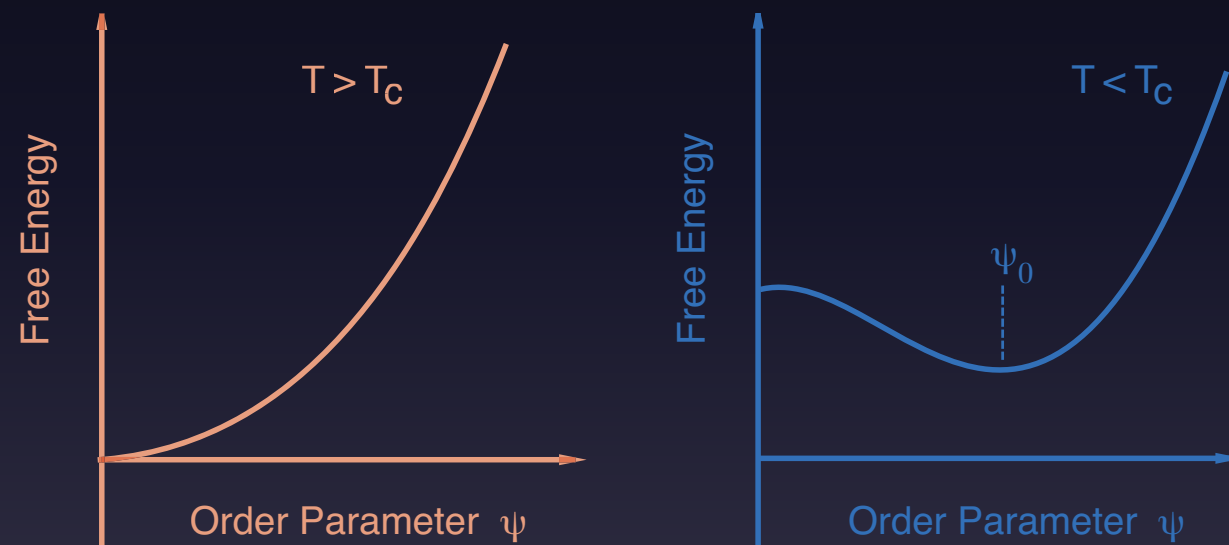
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$$T < T_c: \quad \alpha < 0 \quad \langle |\psi|^2 \rangle_0 \neq 0$$

# In a nonzero magnetic field . . .

$$G_{\text{super}}(\mathbf{B}) = G_{\text{super}}(0) + \frac{\mathbf{B}^2}{8\pi} + \frac{1}{2m^*} \left| -i\hbar\nabla\psi - \frac{e^*}{c}\mathbf{A}\psi \right|^2$$

$$\left. \frac{e^*}{m^*} = -2 \right\} \text{ of superconducting carriers}$$

Weak, slowly varying field:  $\psi \approx \psi_0 \neq 0, \nabla\psi \approx 0$

Variational analysis  $\leadsto$  wave equation of a *massive photon*

Photon – *gauge boson* – acquires mass

$$\lambda^{-1} = e^* |\langle\psi\rangle_0| / \sqrt{m^* c^2}$$

within superconductor

origin of Meissner effect



# Spontaneous Breaking of Gauge Symmetry (1964)

Higgs



Kibble



Guralnik



Hagen



Englert



Brout



# Spontaneous Breaking of Gauge Symmetry

F. Englert and R. Brout, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 13, 321 (1964)

P. W. Higgs, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 13, 508 (1964); *Phys. Lett.* 12, 132 (1964)

G. S. Guralnik, C. R. Hagen, T.W. B. Kibble, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 13, 585 (1964)

# Reminiscences

F. Englert, “Broken Symmetry and Yang–Mills Theory,” in *50 Years of Yang–Mills Theories*, ed. G. 't Hooft, World Scientific, Singapore, 2005, p. 65 [arXiv:hep-th/0406162].

G. S. Guralnik, “The History of the Guralnik, Hagen and Kibble Development of the Theory of Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking and Gauge Particles,” *Int. J. Mod. Phys.* 24, 2601 (2009) [arXiv:0907.3466 [physics.hist-ph]].

P.W. Higgs, “SBGT and all that,” in *Discovery of weak neutral currents: the weak interaction before and after*, Edited by A. K. Mann and D. B. Cline, *ALP Conf. Proc.* 300, 159 (1994); “My life as a boson: The story of ‘The Higgs’,” *Int. J. Mod. Phys. A* 17SI, 86 (2002).

T.W. B. Kibble “Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble mechanism (history),” *Scholarpedia* 4(1), 8741 (2009); [http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble mechanism \(history\)](http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Englert-Brout-Higgs-Guralnik-Hagen-Kibble_mechanism_(history)).

# Hiding EW Symmetry

*Higgs mechanism: relativistic generalization of Ginzburg-Landau **superconducting** phase transition*

- Introduce a complex doublet of scalar fields

$$\phi \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} \quad Y_\phi = +1$$

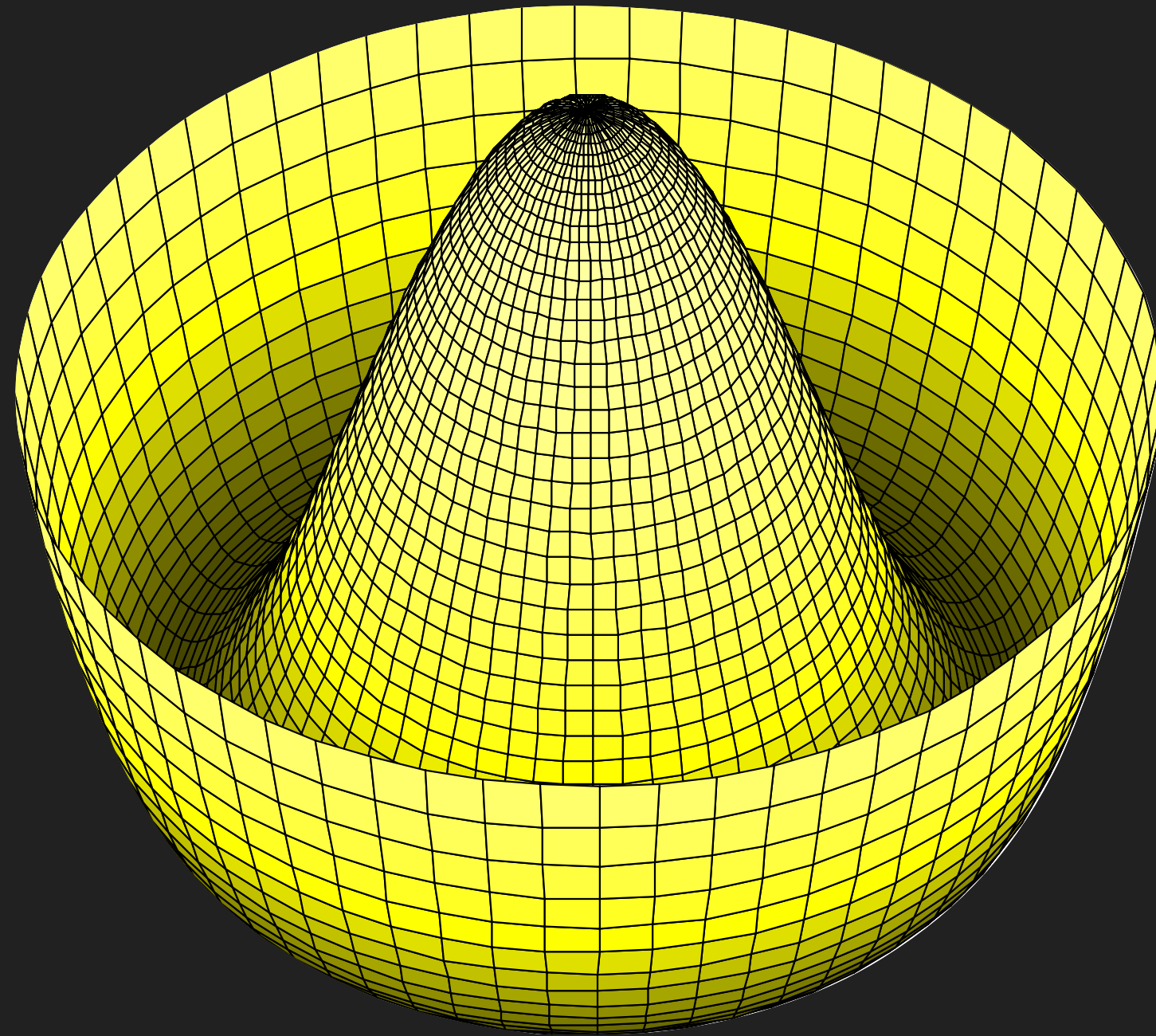
- Add to  $\mathcal{L}$  (gauge-invariant) terms for interaction and propagation of the scalars,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{scalar}} = (\mathcal{D}^\mu \phi)^\dagger (\mathcal{D}_\mu \phi) - V(\phi^\dagger \phi),$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_\mu = \partial_\mu + i\frac{g'}{2}\mathcal{A}_\mu Y + i\frac{g}{2}\vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{b}_\mu$  and

$$V(\phi^\dagger \phi) = \mu^2(\phi^\dagger \phi) + |\lambda|(\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$$

- Add a Yukawa interaction  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = -\zeta_e [\bar{R}(\phi^\dagger L) + (\bar{L}\phi)R]$



“Fifth Force” determines potential



- Arrange self-interactions so vacuum corresponds to a broken-symmetry solution:  $\mu^2 < 0$   
Choose minimum energy (vacuum) state for vacuum expectation value

$$\langle \phi \rangle_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \sqrt{-\mu^2/|\lambda|}$$

Hides (breaks)  $SU(2)_L$  and  $U(1)_Y$

but preserves  $U(1)_{em}$  invariance

Invariance under  $\mathcal{G}$  means  $e^{i\alpha\mathcal{G}}\langle\phi\rangle_0 = \langle\phi\rangle_0$ , so  $\mathcal{G}\langle\phi\rangle_0 = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_1 \langle \phi \rangle_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \text{broken!} \\ \tau_2 \langle \phi \rangle_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -iv/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \text{broken!} \\ \tau_3 \langle \phi \rangle_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \text{broken!} \\ Y \langle \phi \rangle_0 &= Y_\phi \langle \phi \rangle_0 = +1 \langle \phi \rangle_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \text{broken!} \end{aligned}$$

Examine electric charge operator  $Q$  on the (neutral) vacuum

$$\begin{aligned} Q\langle\phi\rangle_0 &= \frac{1}{2}(\tau_3 + Y)\langle\phi\rangle_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} Y_\phi + 1 & 0 \\ 0 & Y_\phi - 1 \end{pmatrix} \langle\phi\rangle_0 \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{unbroken!} \end{aligned}$$

Four original generators are broken, *electric charge is not*

- $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y \rightarrow U(1)_{\text{em}}$  (will verify)
- Expect massless photon
- Expect gauge bosons corresponding to

$$\tau_1, \tau_2, \frac{1}{2}(\tau_3 - Y) \equiv K \quad \text{to acquire masses}$$

# Expand about the vacuum state

Let  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ (v + \eta)/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ ; in *unitary gauge*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{scalar}} = & \frac{1}{2}(\partial^\mu \eta)(\partial_\mu \eta) - \mu^2 \eta^2 \\ & + \frac{v^2}{8} [g^2 |b_\mu^1 - ib_\mu^2|^2 + (g' \mathcal{A}_\mu - gb_\mu^3)^2] \\ & + \text{interaction terms} \end{aligned}$$

“Higgs boson”  $\eta$  has acquired (mass)<sup>2</sup>  $M_H^2 = -2\mu^2 > 0$

$$\text{Define } W_\mu^\pm = \frac{b_\mu^1 \mp ib_\mu^2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\frac{g^2 v^2}{8} (|W_\mu^+|^2 + |W_\mu^-|^2) \iff M_{W^\pm} = gv/2$$

$$(v^2/8)(g' \mathcal{A}_\mu - g b_\mu^3)^2 \dots$$

Now define orthogonal combinations

$$Z_\mu = \frac{-g' \mathcal{A}_\mu + g b_\mu^3}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}} \quad A_\mu = \frac{g \mathcal{A}_\mu + g' b_\mu^3}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}$$

$$M_{Z^0} = \sqrt{g^2 + g'^2} \, v/2 = M_W \sqrt{1 + g'^2/g^2}$$

$A_\mu$  remains massless

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} &= -\zeta_e \frac{(v + \eta)}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{e}_R e_L + \bar{e}_L e_R) \\
&= -\frac{\zeta_e v}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{e} e - \frac{\zeta_e \eta}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{e} e
\end{aligned}$$

electron acquires  $m_e = \zeta_e v / \sqrt{2}$

Higgs-boson coupling to electrons:  $m_e/v$  ( $\propto$  mass)

Desired particle content ... plus a Higgs scalar

Values of couplings, electroweak scale  $v$ ?

Then analyze interactions ...

# The importance of the 1-TeV scale

EW theory does not predict Higgs-boson mass,

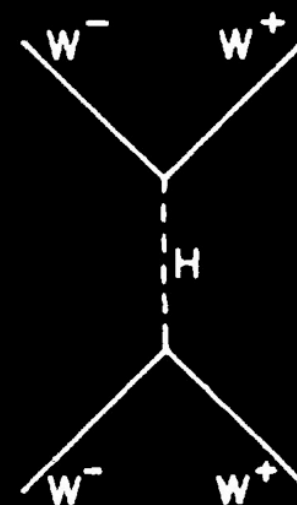
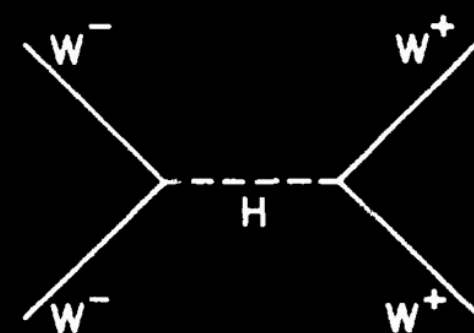
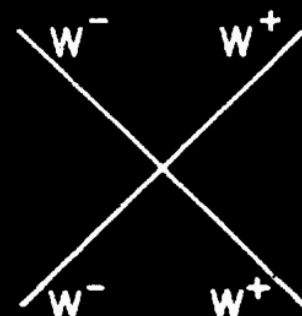
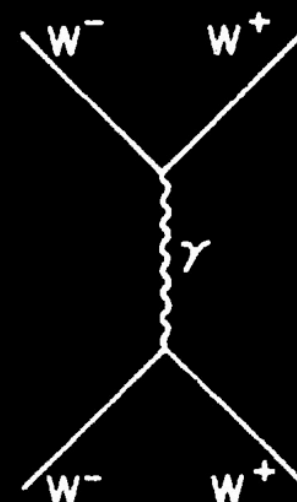
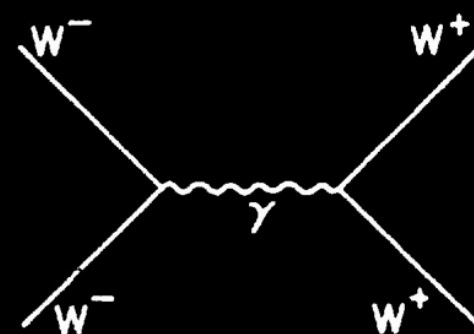
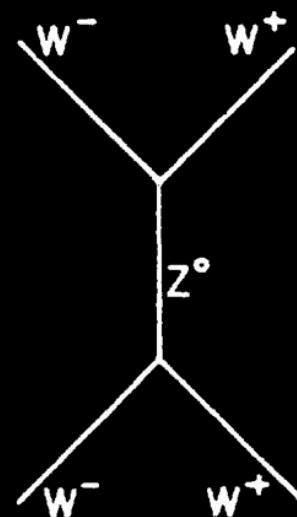
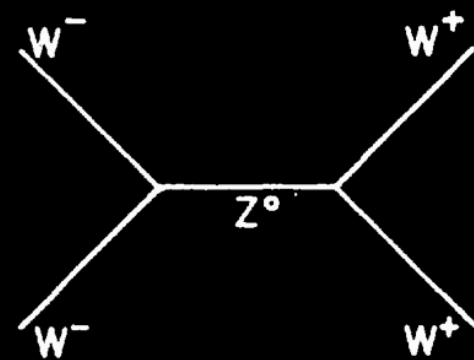
but partial-wave unitarity defines tipping point

*Gedanken* experiment: high-energy scattering of

$$W_L^+ W_L^- \quad Z_L^0 Z_L^0 / \sqrt{2} \quad HH / \sqrt{2} \quad HZ_L^0$$

$L$ : longitudinal,  $1/\sqrt{2}$  for identical particles





# The importance of the 1-TeV scale . .

In HE limit,  $s$ -wave amplitudes  $\propto G_F M_H^2$

$$\lim_{s \gg M_H^2} (a_0) \rightarrow \frac{-G_F M_H^2}{4\pi\sqrt{2}} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/\sqrt{8} & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{8} & 3/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{8} & 1/4 & 3/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Require that largest eigenvalue respect partial-wave unitarity condition  $|a_0| \leq 1$

$$\Rightarrow M_H \leq \left( \frac{8\pi\sqrt{2}}{3G_F} \right)^{1/2} = 1 \text{ TeV}$$

condition for perturbative unitarity

# The importance of the 1-TeV scale . . .

## If the bound is respected

- weak interactions remain weak at all energies
- perturbation theory is everywhere reliable

## If the bound is violated

- perturbation theory breaks down
- weak interactions among  $W^\pm$ ,  $Z$ ,  $H$  become strong on 1-TeV scale

New phenomena are to be found in the EW interactions at energies not much larger than 1 TeV

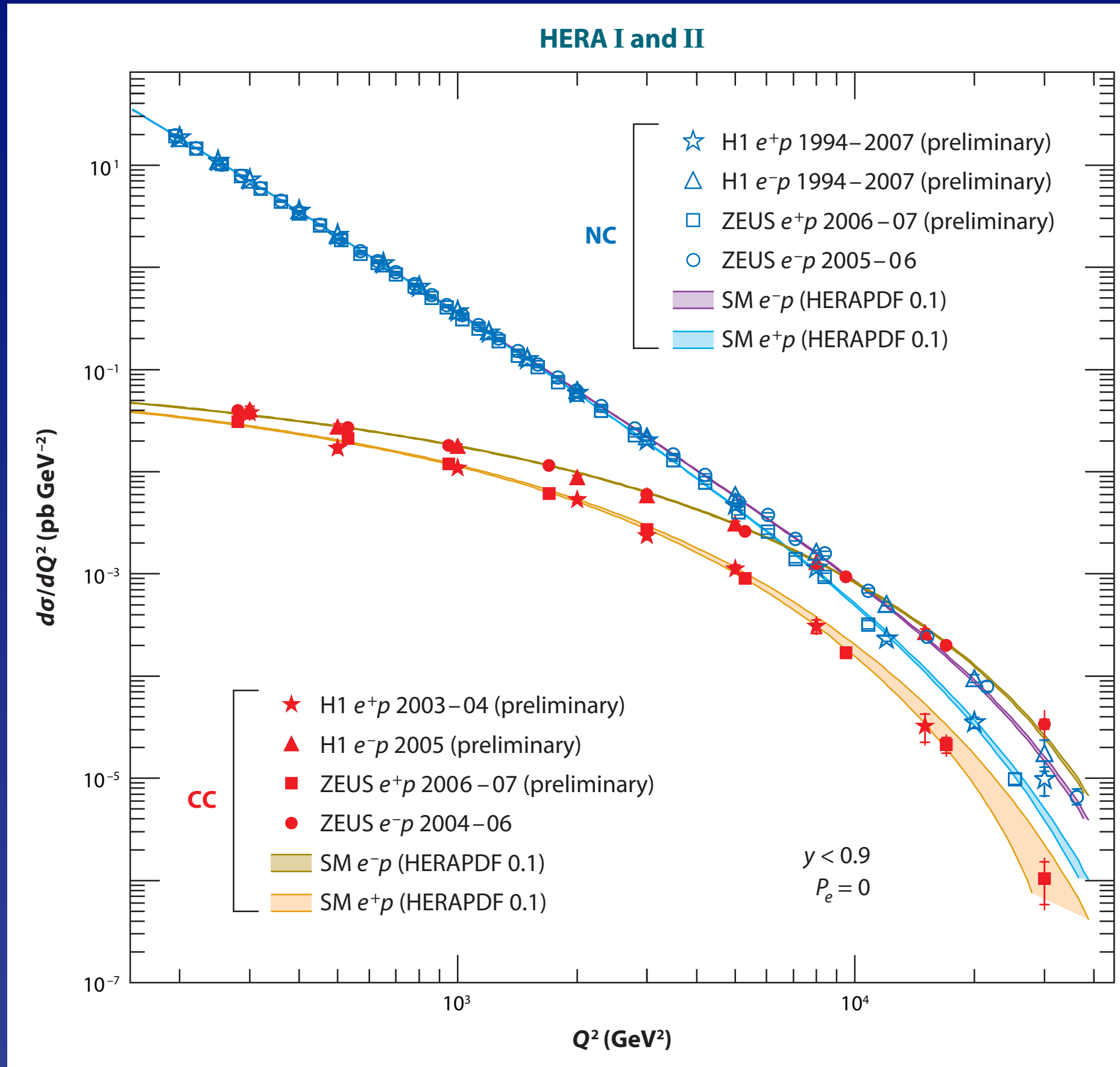
## “Standard” Electroweak Theory

*Higgs boson*: massive particle with spin zero  
hides electroweak symmetry  
gives mass to  $W$  and  $Z$   
gives mass to electron, quarks, etc.

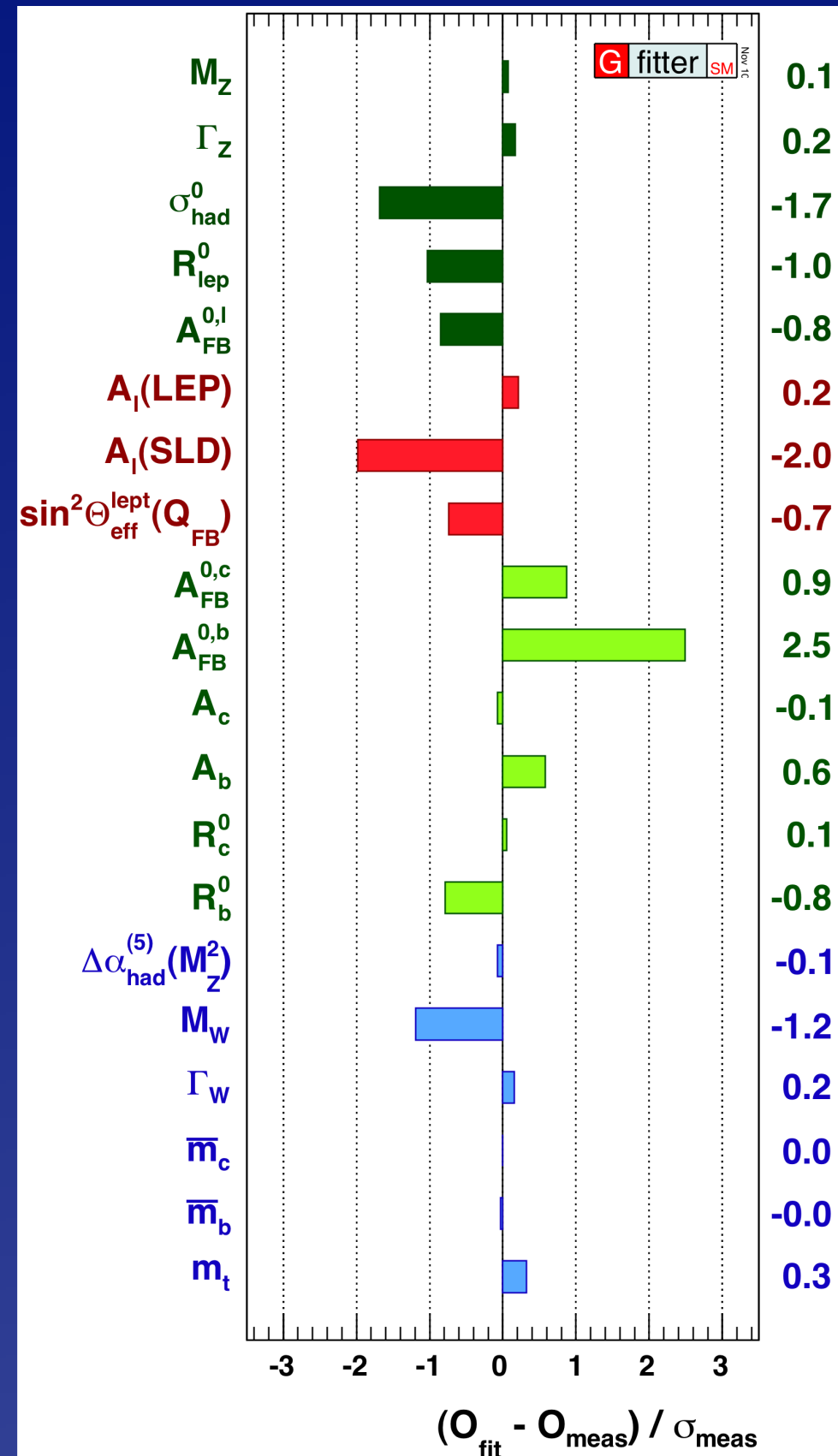
Theory does not predict Higgs-boson mass

*Not yet observed!*

# Similar strengths of weak & EM couplings

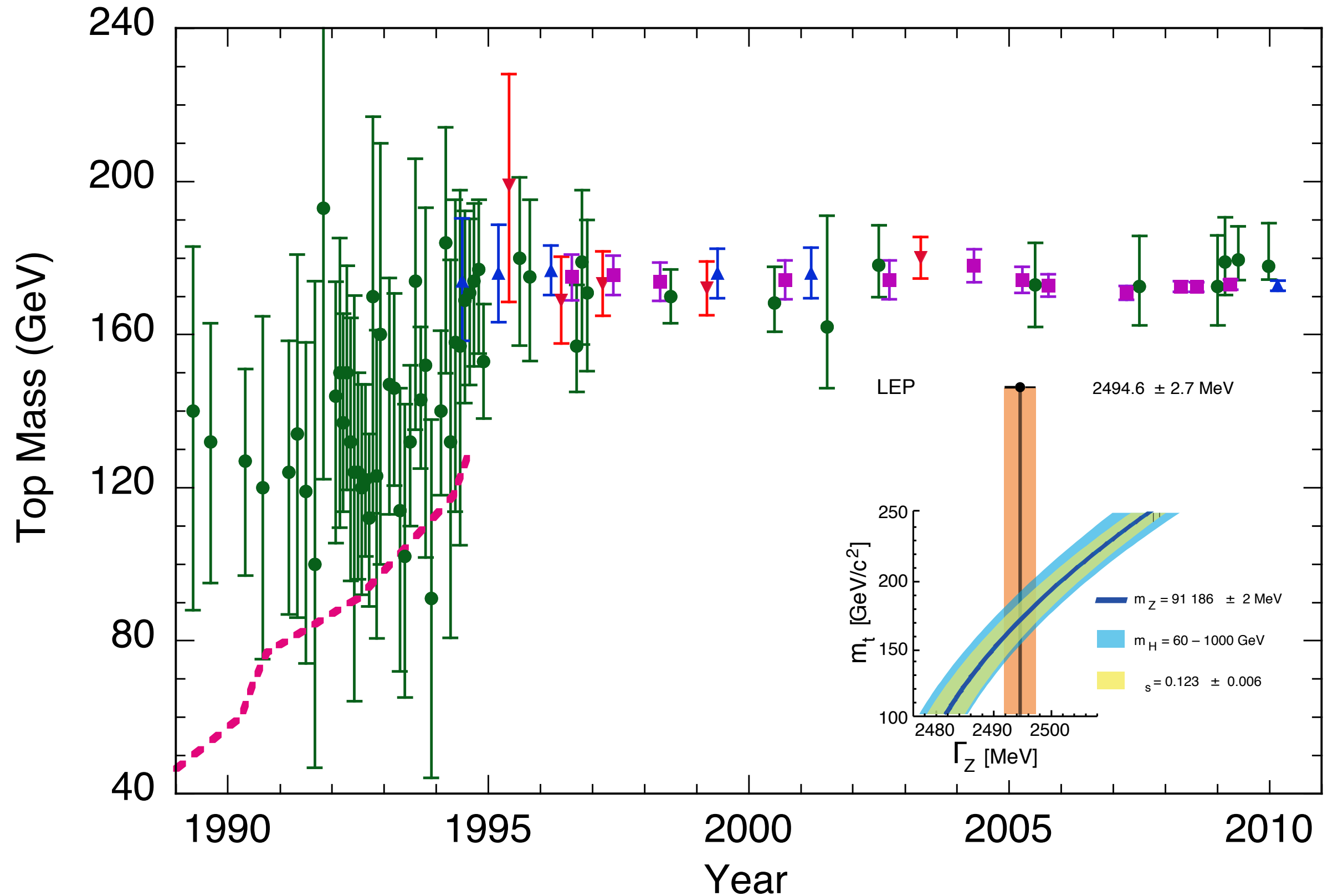


# Electroweak Theory Survives Many Tests

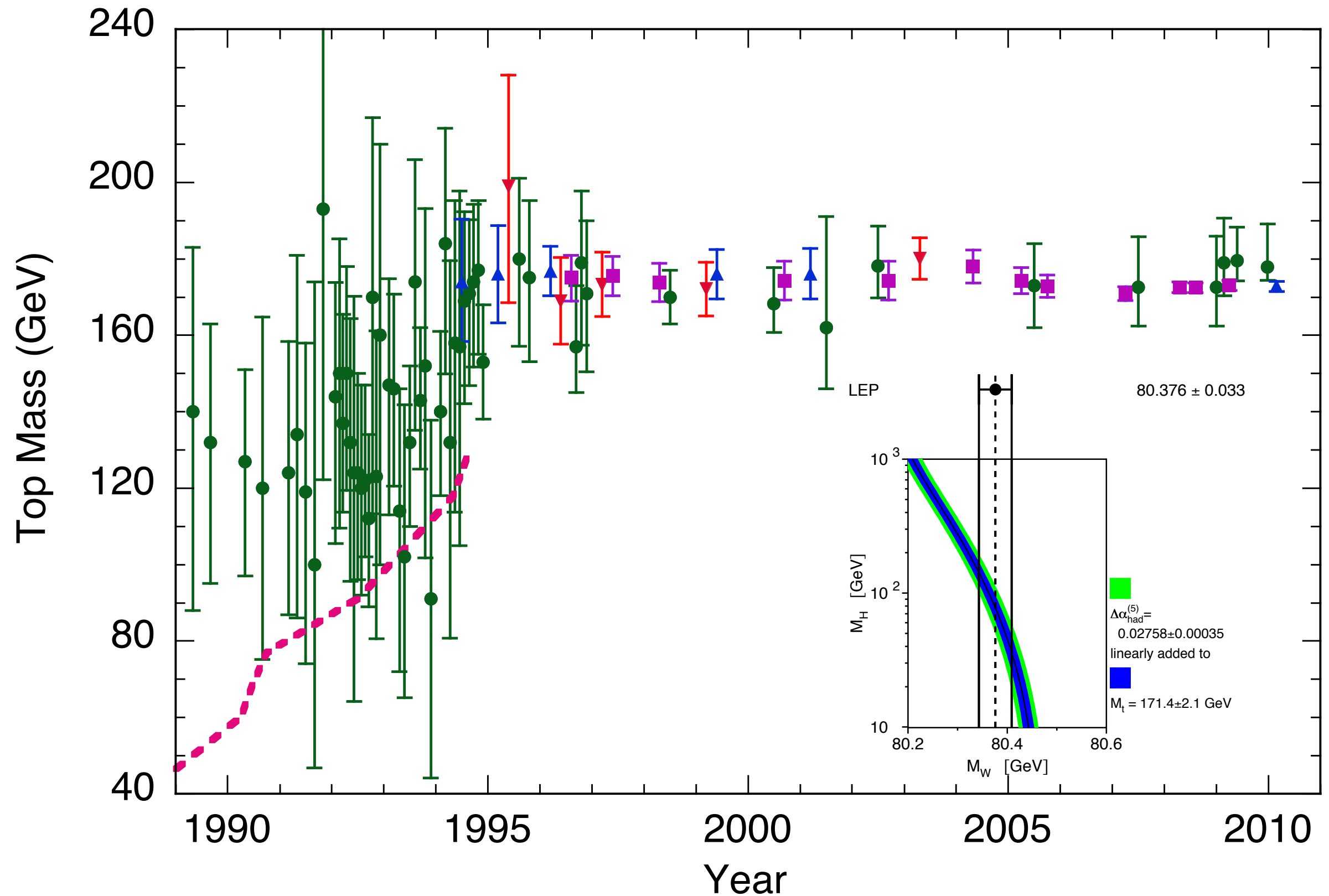




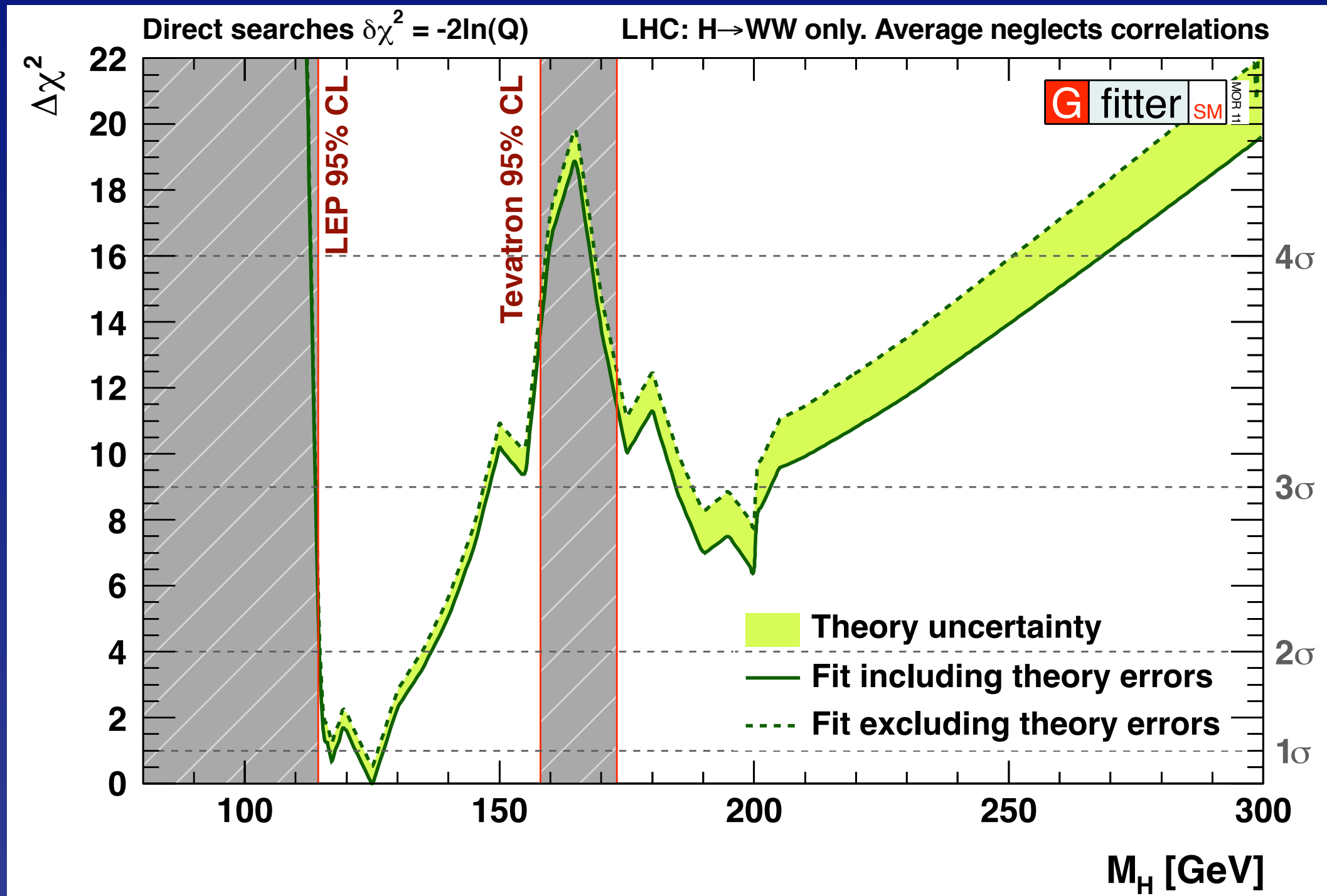
# Electroweak Theory Anticipates Discoveries



# Electroweak Theory Anticipates Discoveries



# Where the SM Higgs Boson Is Not



BSM: Heavy Higgs allowed, even natural



Penumbra

Synthetic Spring

Neptune

Big Technology

I'm With You

Cooled

Faith (Yourself)

Travel

Perpetual Symmetry

Produced By  
Gareth Young  
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HIGGS  
BOSON

COMPACT  
disc  
DIGITAL AUDIO  
DDD

AP  
RECORDS

Penumbra

Synthetic Spring

Neptune

Big Technology

I'm With You

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Faith (Yourself)

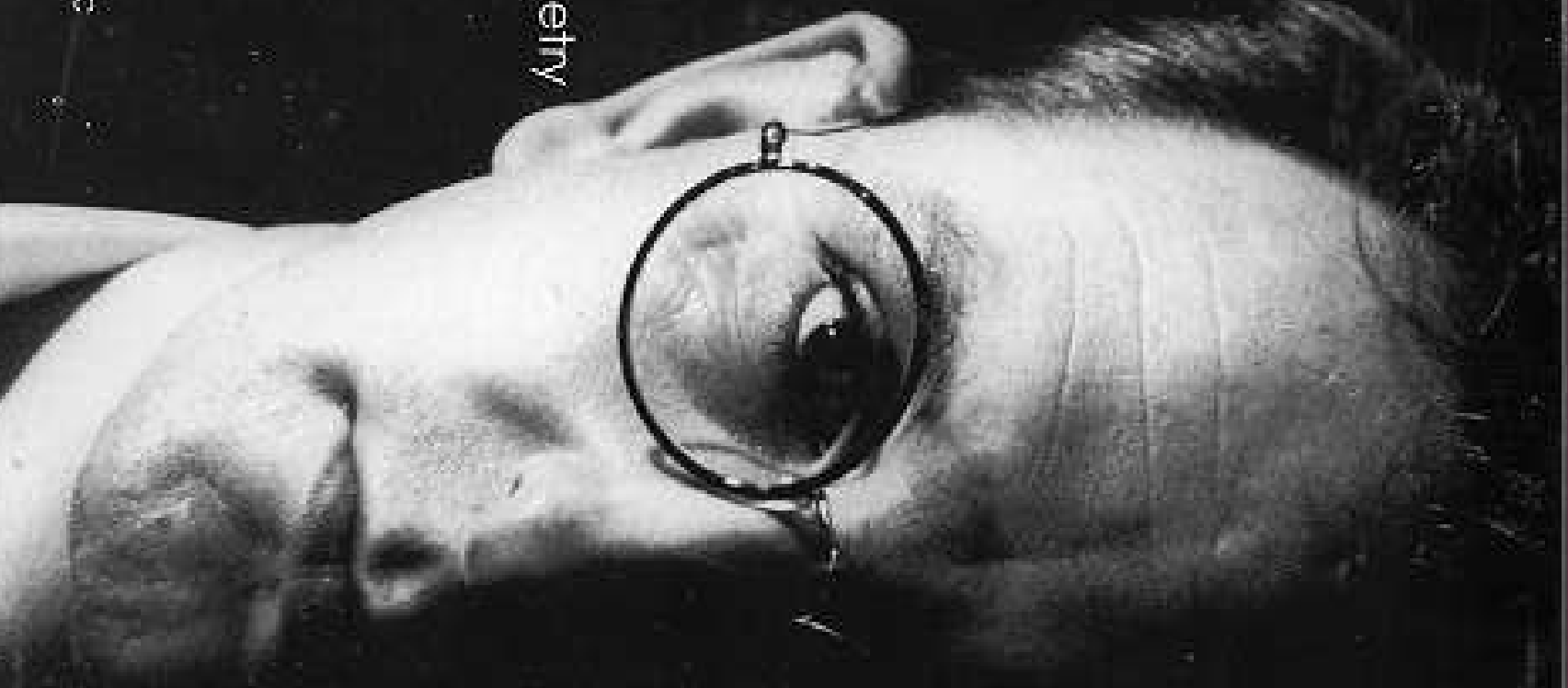
Travel

Perpetual Symmetry

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# 12

HIGGS  
BOSON





Man kann Maxwells wunderbare elektromagnetische Lichttheorie nicht studieren, ohne bisweilen die Empfindung zu haben, als wohne den mathematischen Formeln selbständiges Leben und eigener Verstand inne, als seien dieselben klüger als wir, klüger sogar als ihr Erfinder, als gäben sie uns mehr heraus, als seinerzeit in sie hineingelegt wurde.

One cannot study Maxwell's marvelous electromagnetic theory of light without sometimes having the feeling that these mathematical formulae have an independent existence and an intelligence of their own, that they are wiser than we are, wiser even than their discoverers, that we got more of them than was originally put into them.

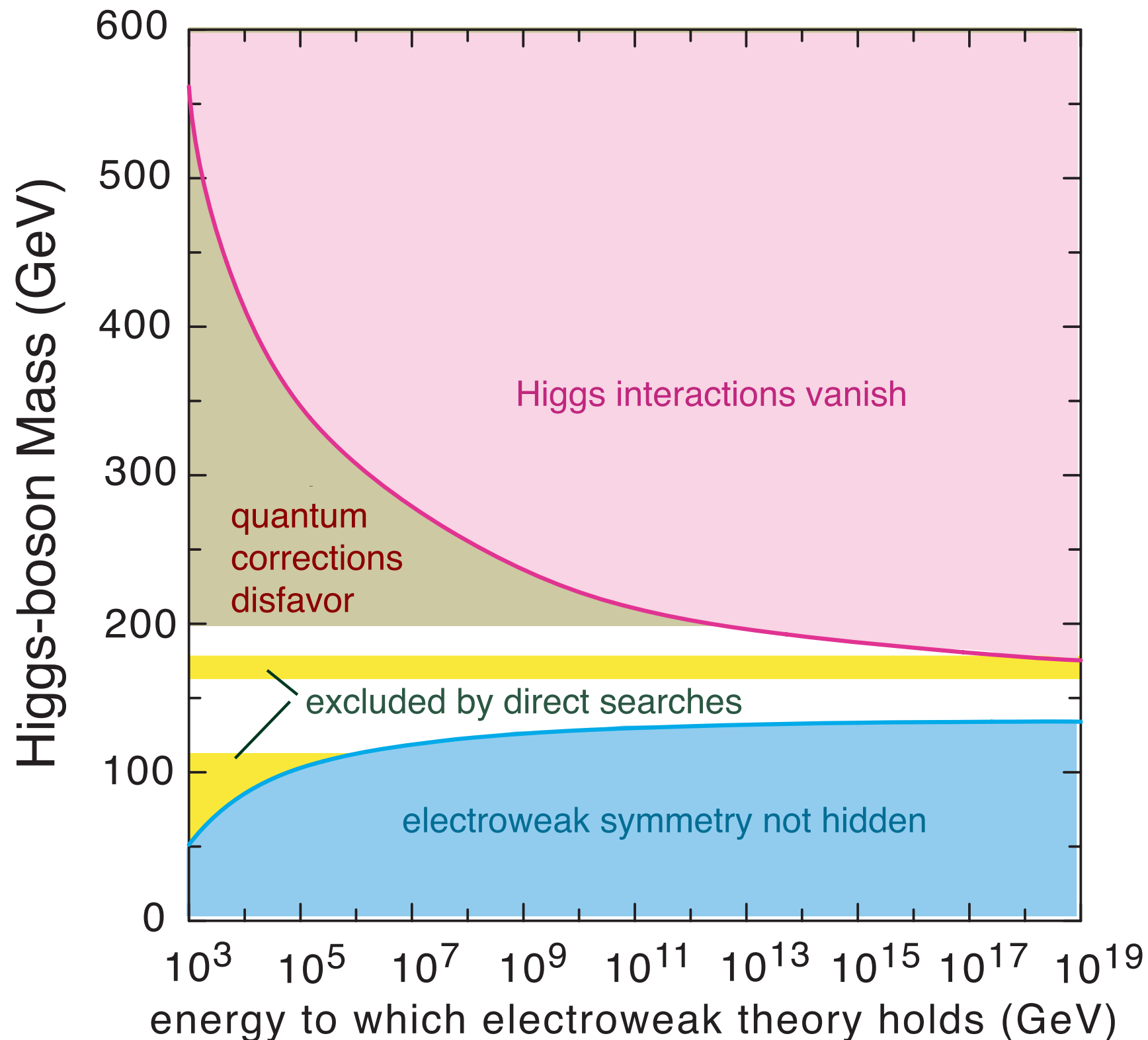
Heinrich Hertz, "Über die Beziehungen zwischen Licht und Elektrizität,"  
*Gesammelte Werke* I S. 339-354: S. 344.

EW theory holds from  $10^{-18}$  m to  $10^8$  m

It is unlikely to be complete

# Limits of Validity of the Electroweak Theory

Consistent to  $M_{\text{Planck}}$  if  $134 \text{ GeV} \lesssim M_H \lesssim 177 \text{ GeV}$



## An unknown agent hides electroweak symmetry

- \* A force of a new character, based on interactions of an elementary scalar
- \* A new gauge force, perhaps acting on undiscovered constituents
- \* A residual force that emerges from strong dynamics among electroweak gauge bosons
- \* An echo of extra spacetime dimensions

# Why will it matter?

Imagine a world without a symmetry-breaking (Higgs) mechanism at the electroweak scale

## *Without a Higgs mechanism ...*

Electron and quarks would have no mass

QCD would confine quarks into protons, etc.

*Nucleon mass little changed*

*Surprise: QCD would hide EW symmetry,  
give tiny masses to W, Z*

Massless electron: atoms lose integrity

*No atoms means no chemistry, no stable  
composite structures like liquids, solids, ...*

[arXiv:0901.3958](#)



# Electroweak Questions for the LHC

- What hides electroweak symmetry: a Higgs boson, or new strong dynamics?
- If a Higgs boson: one or several?
- Elementary or composite?
- Is the Higgs boson indeed light, as anticipated by the global fits to EW precision measurements?
- Does  $H$  only give masses to  $W^\pm$  and  $Z^0$ , or also to fermions? (Infer  $t\bar{t}H$  from production)
- Are the branching fractions for  $f\bar{f}$  decays in accord with the standard model?

If all this: what sets the fermion masses and mixings?

# Problems of the Standard Model

# The Problem of Identity

*What makes a top quark a top quark,  
an electron an electron, a neutrino a neutrino?*

*Why three families?*

# Parameters of the Standard Model

3 coupling parameters  $\alpha_s, \alpha_{\text{em}}, \sin^2 \theta_W$

2 parameters of the Higgs potential

1 vacuum phase (QCD)

6 quark masses

3 quark mixing angles

1 CP-violating phase

3 charged-lepton masses

3 neutrino masses

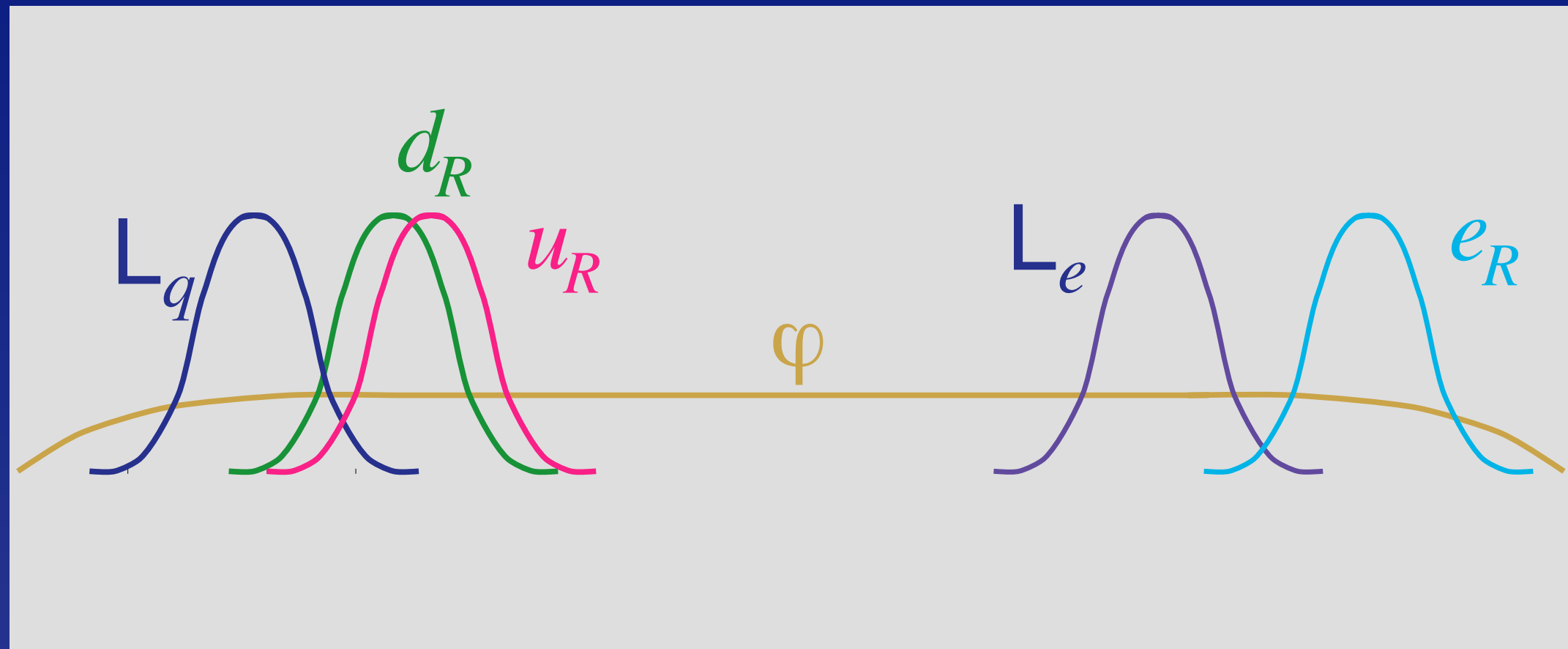
3 leptonic mixing angles

1 leptonic CP-violating phase (+ Majorana ...)

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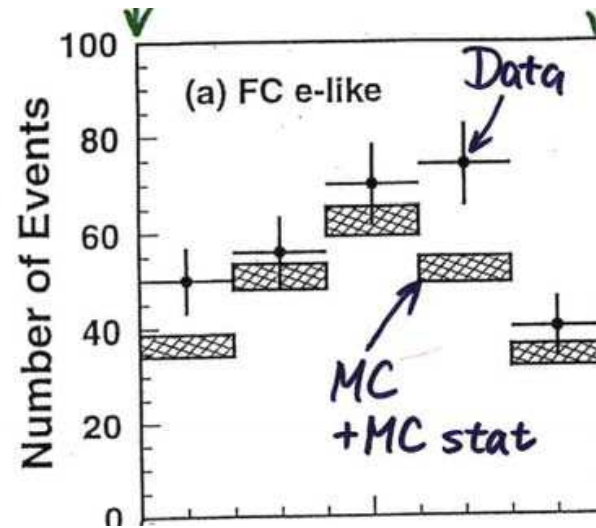
26<sup>+</sup> arbitrary parameters

Might extra dimensions explain  
the range of fermion masses?



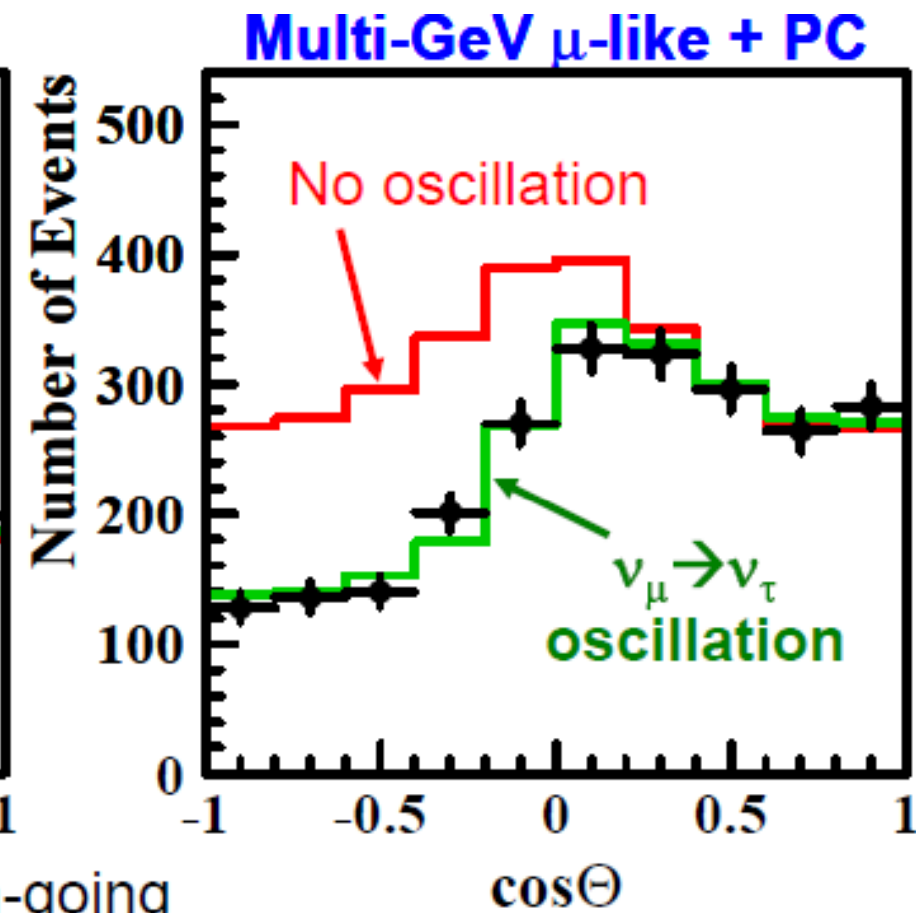
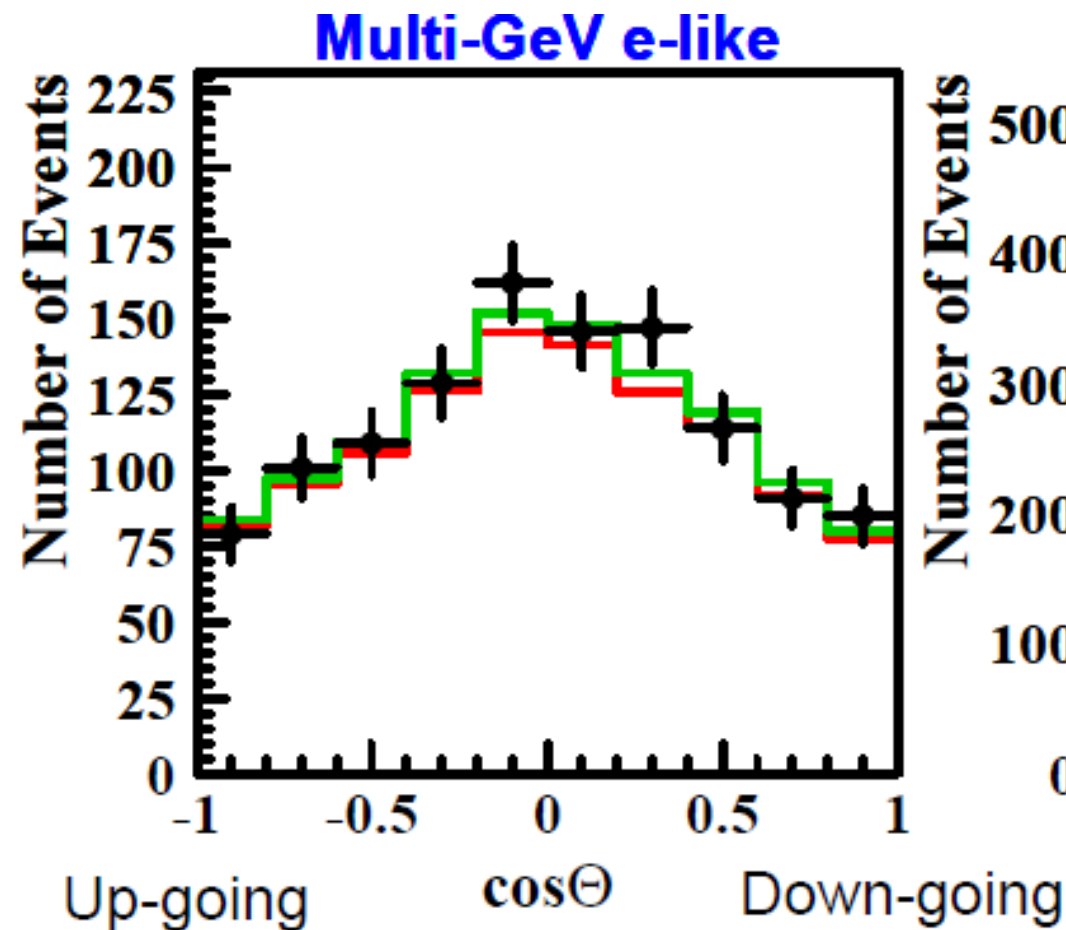
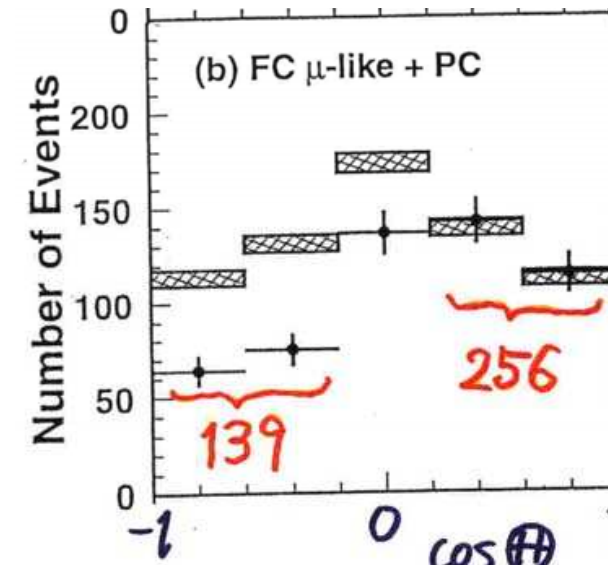
Fermions ride separate tracks in 5th dimension  
Small offsets in  $x_4$ : exponential differences in masses

# SuperK Atmospheric Neutrinos



@Neutrino98  
(535 day)

Now  
(2293 day)



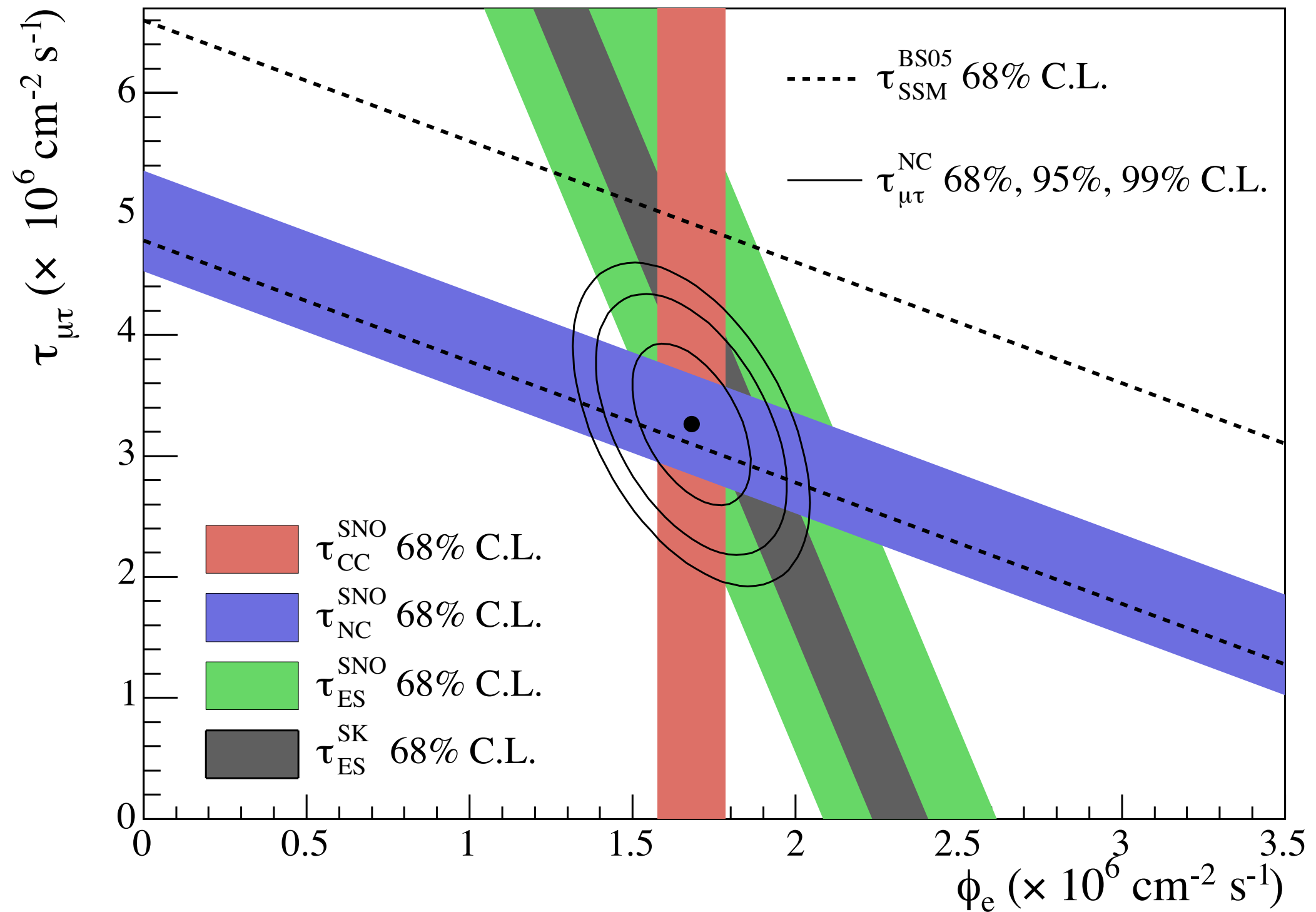
Downward  $\nu$  travel 15 km, upward  $\nu$  up to 13 000 km



# Solar neutrino observations: SuperK & SNO

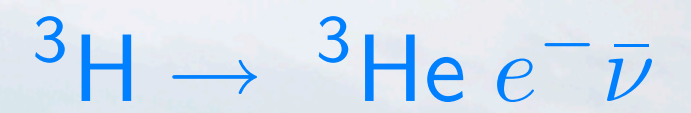
*Total* flux agrees with solar model, but only 30% arrive as  $\nu_e$

Solar  $\nu$  emerge as  $\nu_2$





KATRIN aims at 0.2 eV





Will the fermion masses and mixings reveal symmetries or dynamics or principles?

Some questions now seem to us the wrong questions:  
*Kepler's obsession – Why six planets in those orbits?*

Landscape interpretation as environmental parameters

Might still hope to find equivalent of Kepler's Laws!

# The Hierarchy Problem

## *Evolution of the Higgs-boson mass*

$$M_H^2(p^2) = M_H^2(\Lambda^2) + \text{[dashed loop]} + \text{[solid loop]} + \text{[wavy loop]}$$

quantum corrections from particles with  $J = 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1$

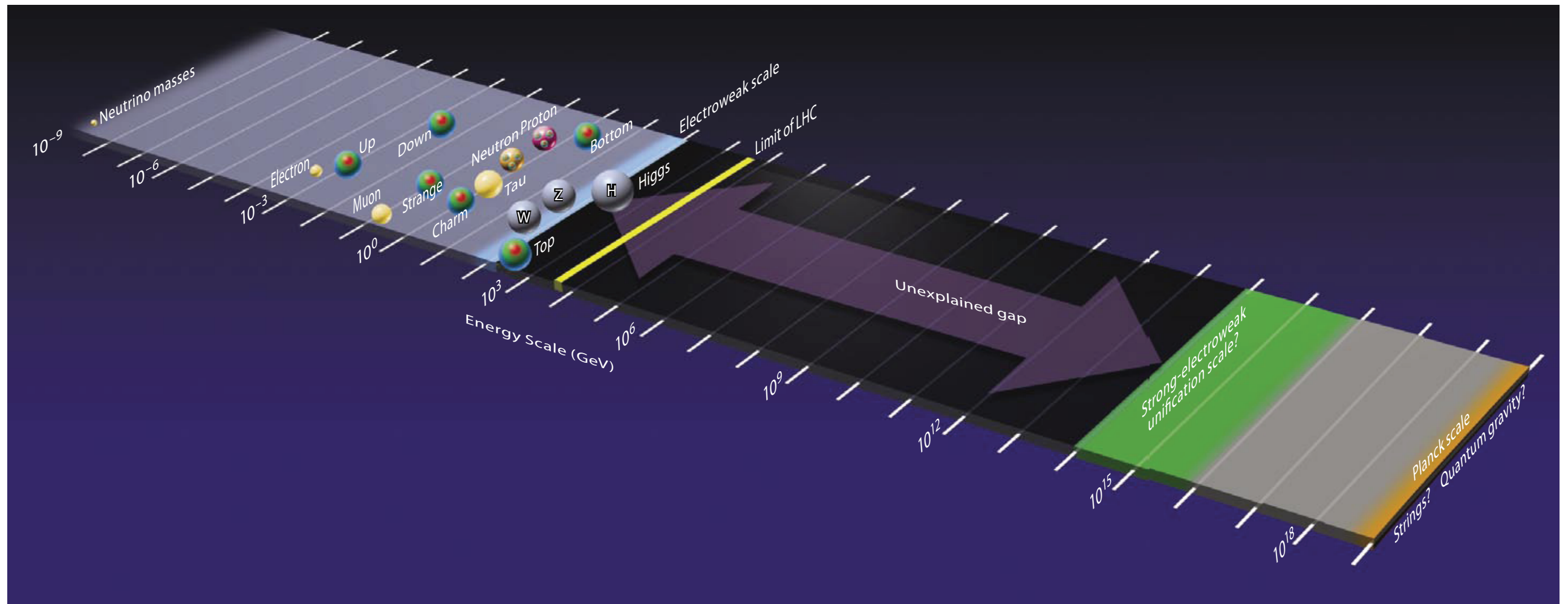
Potential divergences:

$$M_H^2(p^2) = M_H^2(\Lambda^2) + \mathcal{C} g^2 \int_{p^2}^{\Lambda^2} dk^2 + \dots ,$$

$\Lambda$ : naturally large,  $\sim M_{\text{Planck}}$  or  $\sim U \approx 10^{15-16}$  GeV

How to control quantum corrections?

# The Hierarchy Problem



How to keep the distant scales from mixing in the face of quantum corrections? *OR*

How to stabilize the mass of the Higgs boson on the electroweak scale? *OR*

Why is the electroweak scale small?

# The Hierarchy Problem

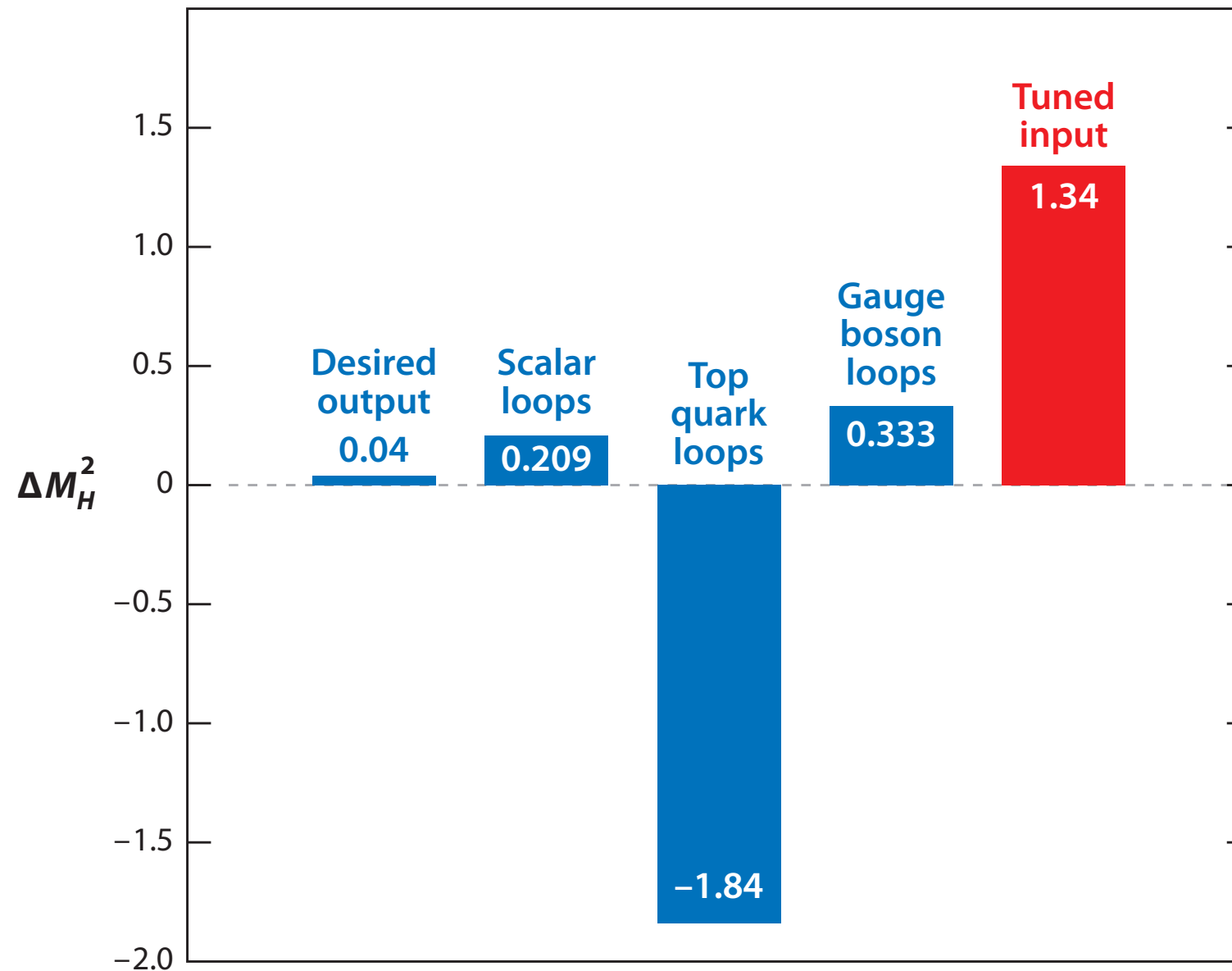
## *Possible paths*

- Fine tuning
- A new symmetry (supersymmetry)  
fermion, boson loops contribute with opposite sign
- Composite “Higgs boson” (technicolor . . . )  
form factor damps integrand
- Little Higgs models, etc.
- Low-scale gravity (shortens range of integration)

All but first require new physics near the TeV scale

# A Delicate Balance . . . even for $\Lambda = 5 \text{ TeV}$

$$\delta M_H^2 = \frac{G_F \Lambda^2}{4\pi^2 \sqrt{2}} (6M_W^2 + 3M_Z^2 + M_H^2 - 12m_t^2)$$



Light Higgs + no new physics: LEP Paradox

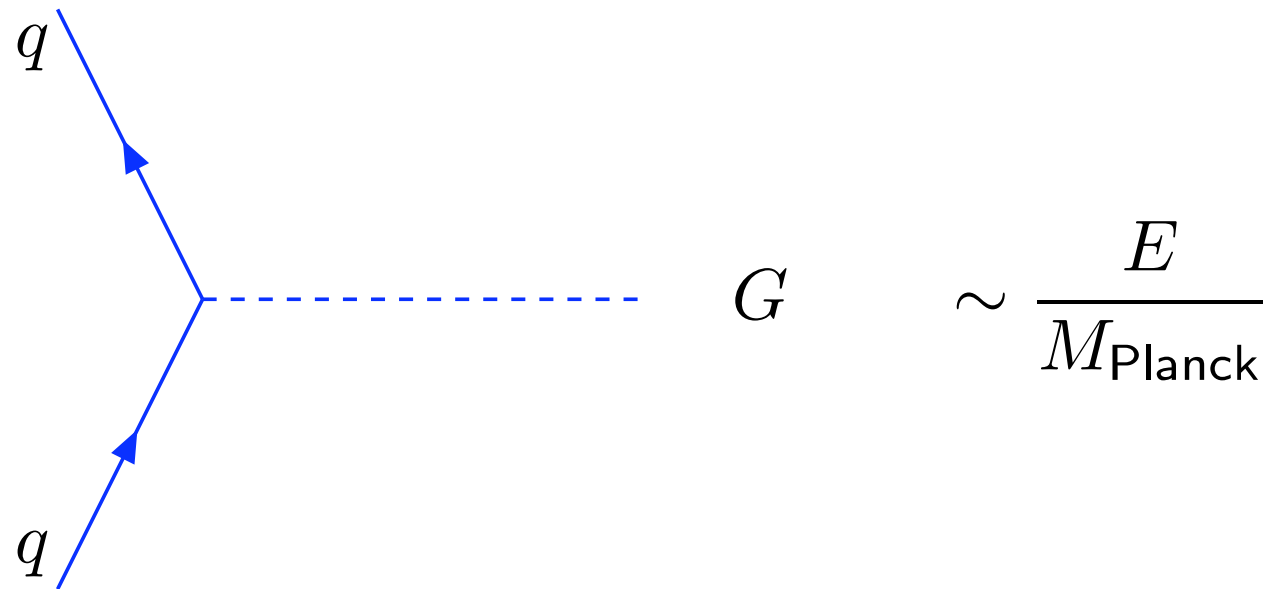


# Why is empty space so nearly massless?

Natural to neglect gravity in particle physics . . .

Gravitational *ep* interaction  $\approx 10^{-41} \times$  EM

$$G_{\text{Newton}} \text{ small} \iff M_{\text{Planck}} = \left( \frac{\hbar c}{G_{\text{Newton}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \approx 1.22 \times 10^{19} \text{ GeV large}$$



300 years after Newton: Why **is** gravity weak?

# But gravity is not always negligible . . .

## *The vacuum energy problem*

$$\text{Higgs potential } V(\varphi^\dagger \varphi) = \mu^2(\varphi^\dagger \varphi) + |\lambda|(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^2$$

At the minimum,

$$V(\langle \varphi^\dagger \varphi \rangle_0) = \frac{\mu^2 v^2}{4} = -\frac{|\lambda| v^4}{4} < 0.$$

$$\text{Identify } M_H^2 = -2\mu^2$$

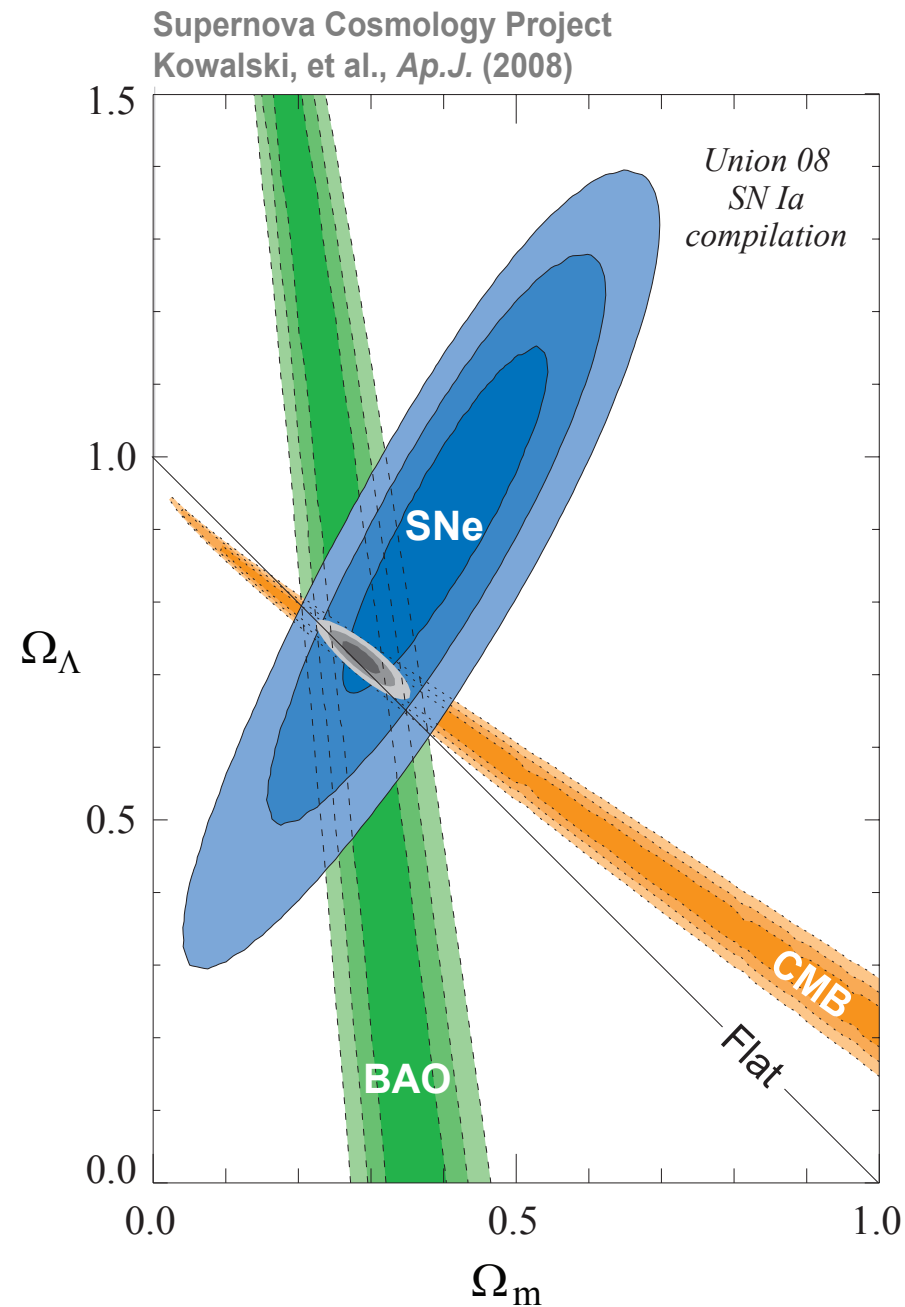
$V \neq 0$  contributes position-independent vacuum energy density

$$\rho_H \equiv \frac{M_H^2 v^2}{8} \geq 10^8 \text{ GeV}^4 \approx 10^{24} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$$

Adding vacuum energy density  $\rho_{\text{vac}}$   $\Leftrightarrow$  adding cosmological constant  $\Lambda$  to Einstein's equation

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G_N}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} \quad \Lambda = \frac{8\pi G_N}{c^4} \rho_{\text{vac}}$$

Observed  $\rho_{\text{vac}} \lesssim 10^{-46} \text{ GeV}^4$

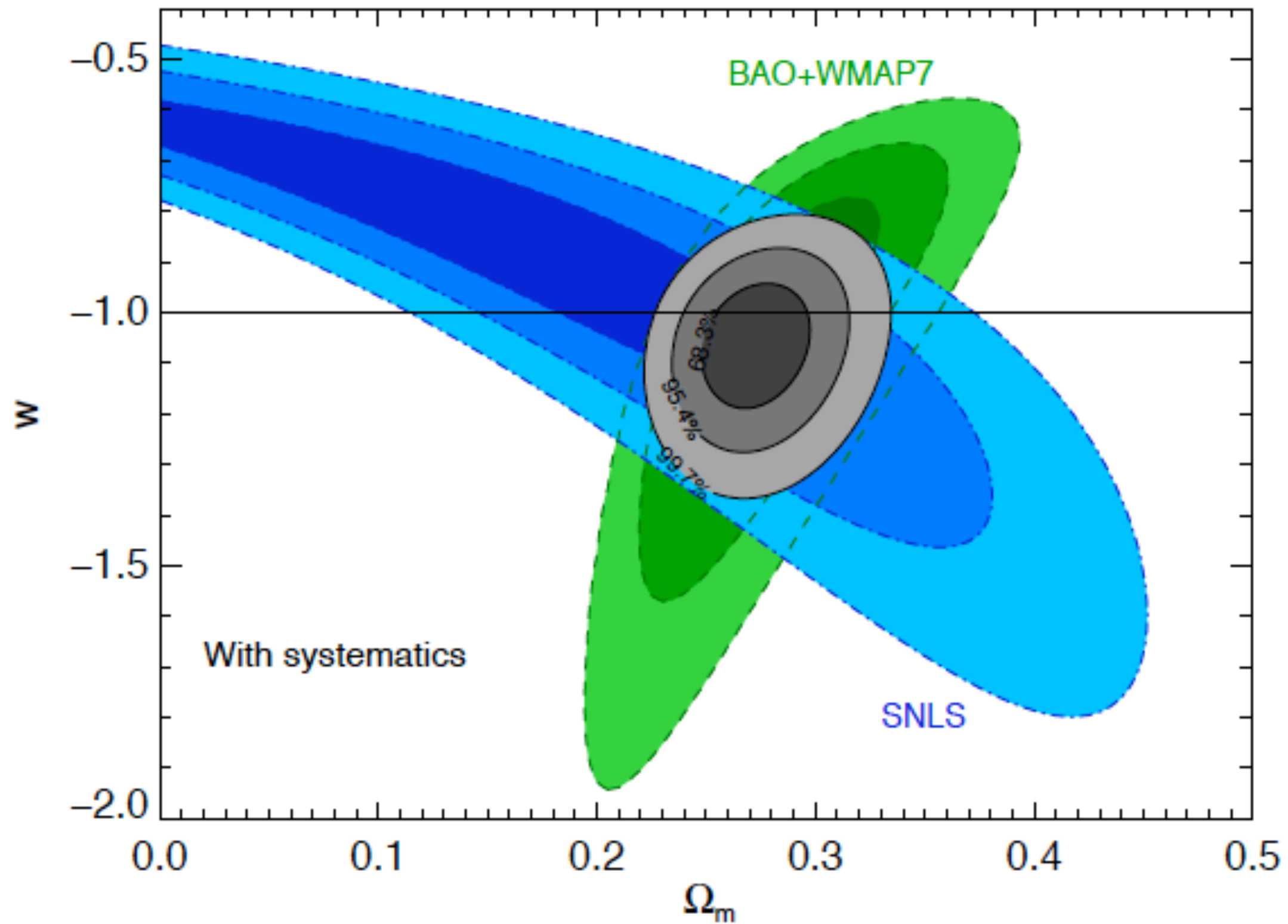


$\rho_H \gtrsim 10^8 \text{ GeV}^4$ : mismatch by  $10^{54}$

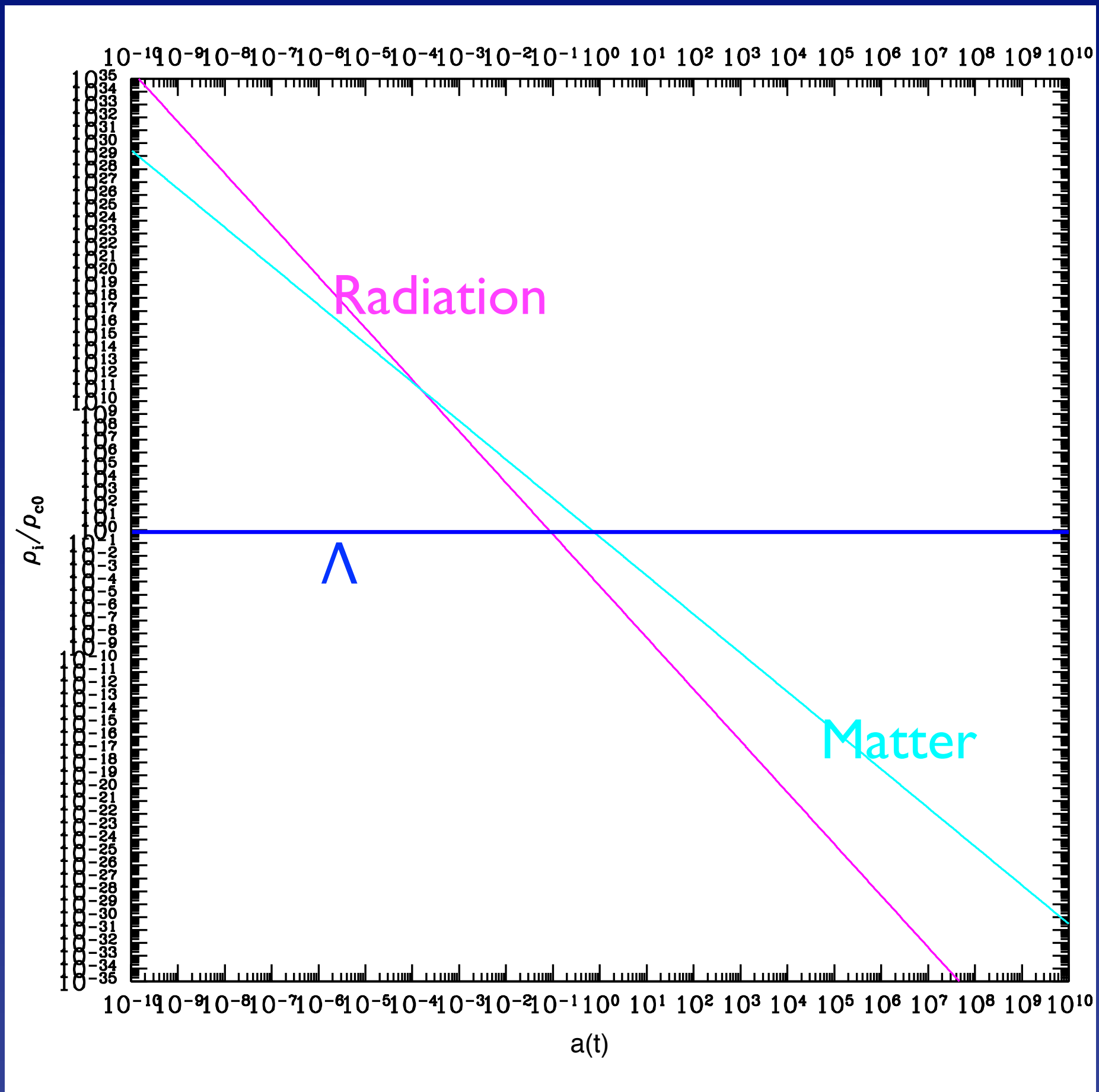
A chronic dull headache for thirty years . . .

# Accelerated Expansion Consistent with Cosmo. Constant

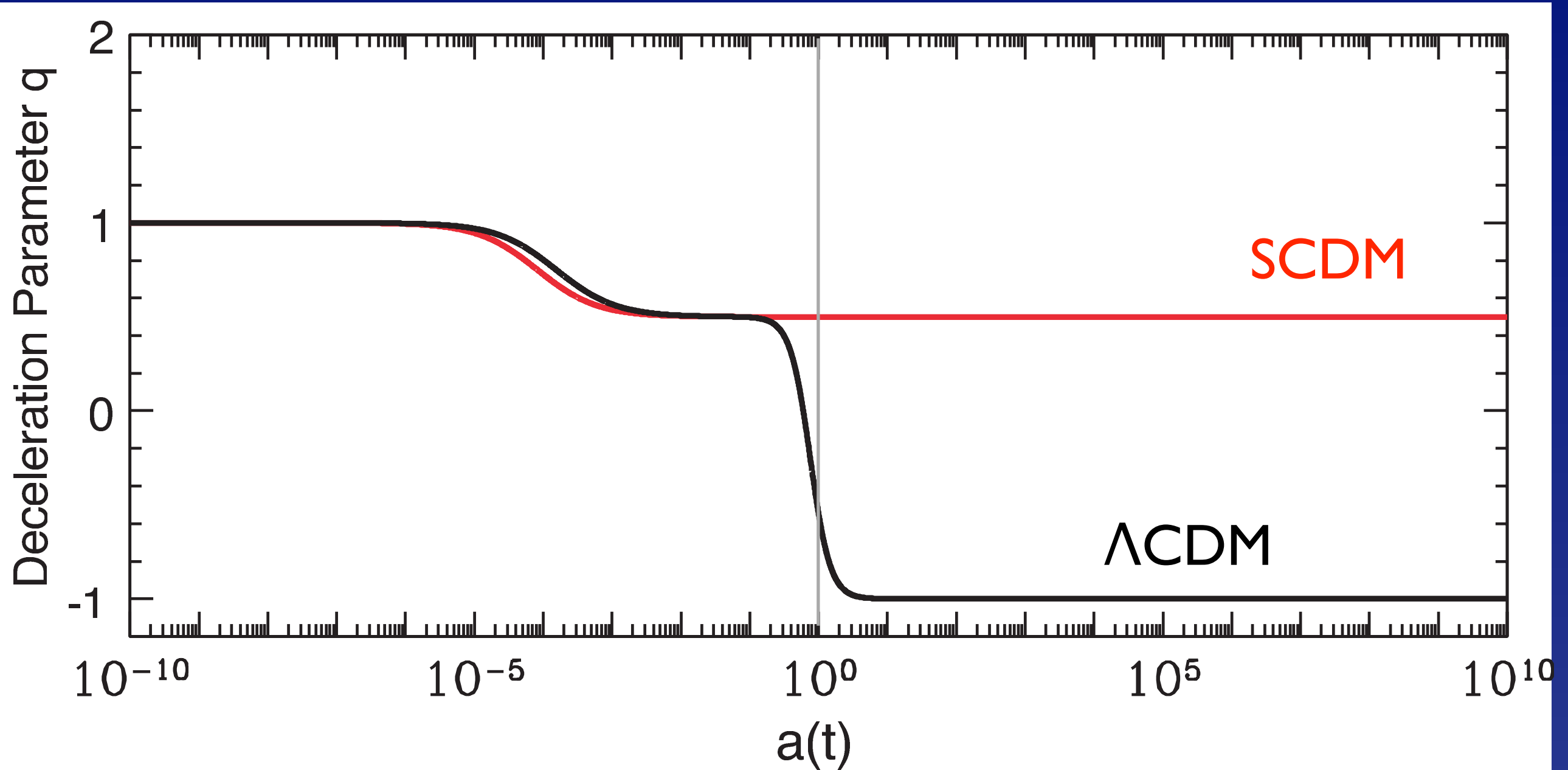
$$w = p/\rho$$



# Composition of the Universe (?)

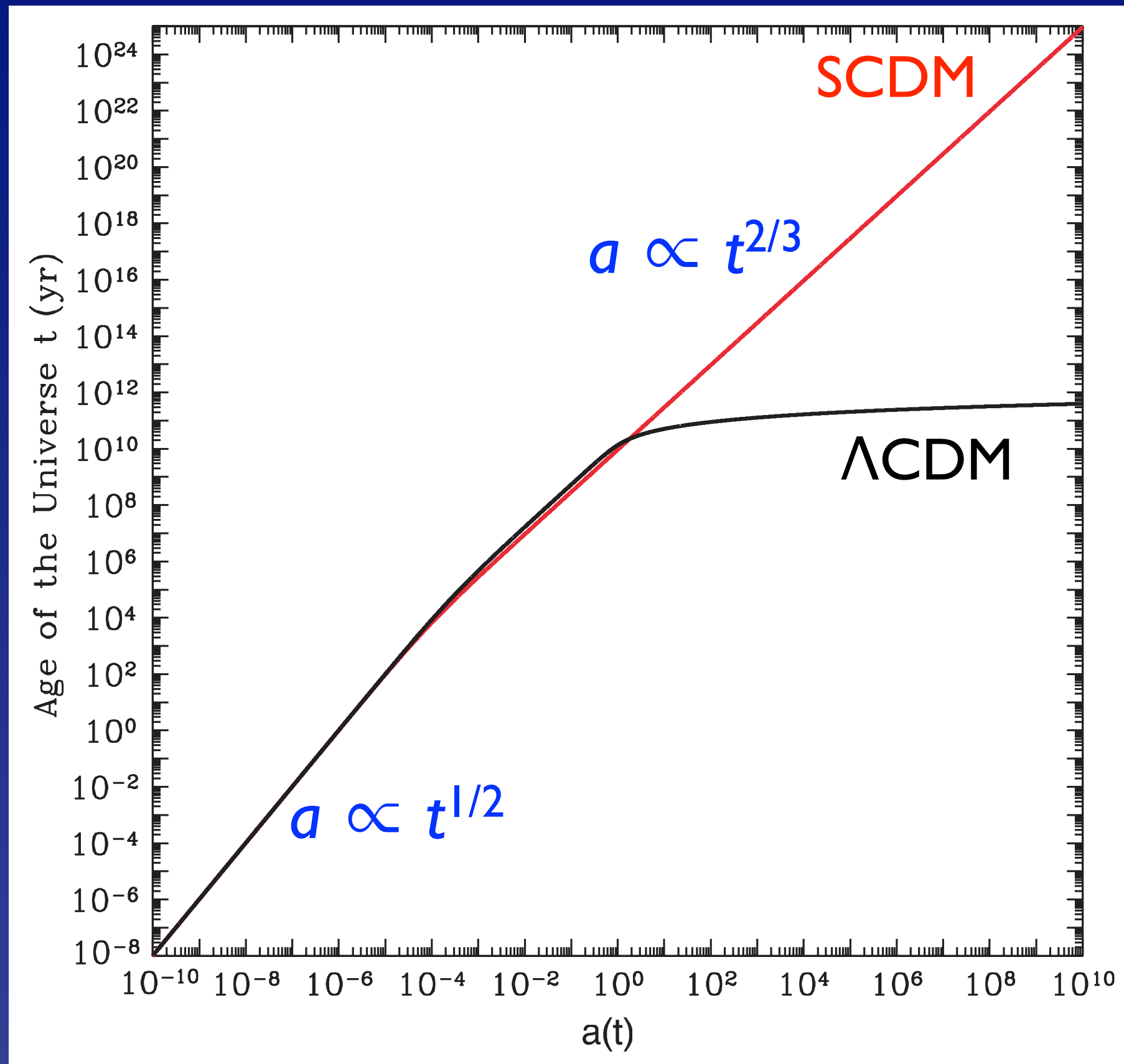


# Accelerating expansion has remarkable implications



$$q \equiv -\frac{1}{H^2} \frac{\ddot{R}}{R} = \frac{\Lambda}{3H^2} - \frac{4\pi G_N}{3H^2} (\rho + 3p)$$

# Accelerating expansion has remarkable implications





# Lacunae

(Massive Neutrinos)  
Dark Matter Candidates  
Baryon-Antibaryon Asymmetry  
Charge Quantization  
Absence of Gravity

# More Electroweak Questions for the LHC

- What is the agent that hides electroweak symmetry?
- Is the “Higgs boson” elementary or composite? How does the Higgs boson interact with itself? What triggers electroweak symmetry breaking?
- New physics in pattern of Higgs-boson decays?
- Will (unexpected or rare) decays of  $H$  reveal new kinds of matter?
- What would discovery of  $> 1$  Higgs boson imply?
- What stabilizes  $M_H$  below 1 TeV?
- How can a light  $H$  coexist with absence of new phenomena?
- Is EWSB related to gravity through extra spacetime dimensions?

# More Electroweak Questions for the LHC<sup>bis</sup>

- Is EWSB emergent, connected with strong dynamics?
- If new strong dynamics, how can we diagnose? What takes place of  $H$ ?
- Does the Higgs boson give mass to fermions, or only to the weak bosons? What sets the masses and mixings of the quarks and leptons?
- Does the different behavior of left-handed and right-handed fermions with respect to charged-current weak interactions reflect a fundamental asymmetry in the laws of nature?

# More Electroweak Questions for the LHC<sup>ter</sup>

- What will be the next symmetry recognized in Nature? Is Nature supersymmetric? Is the electroweak theory part of some larger edifice?
- Are there additional generations of quarks and leptons?
- What resolves the vacuum energy problem?
- What lessons does electroweak symmetry breaking hold for unified theories of the strong, weak, and electromagnetic interactions?

How are we prisoners of conventional thinking?



# Great Lesson of XX<sup>th</sup> Century Science

The human scale of space & time is not  
privileged for understanding Nature ...  
and may even be disadvantaged



Thank you!